



TOMORROW

Fair weather or foul, The Great British Summer begins tomorrow in a special 10-page Saturday...

Go-ahead for RAF superjet

British Aerospace have been given the go-ahead for the prototype of a supersonic fighter for the RAF...

Reforms sought in education

A group of leading industrialists and academics has called for reform of sixth-form and university education...

Crossed line

Russia has rejected President Reagan's proposals for improving the "hot line" between Moscow and Washington...

Stocks boost

The stock market continued to gain with the Financial Times Index rising 5.6 points to a record 706.2...

Russia with love

The three Greenham Common peace women who have been in Russia for a week say they intend to return in September...

Shaping up

One hundred turned up for the "Miss Warsaw Region" contest, among them secretaries, truant schoolgirls and strippers...

Loner's gift

Betty Trask, the writer who has left £400,000 for an annual fiction award, spent many years as a recluse in a small terrace house...

United's Cup

Manchester United won last night's FA Cup final replay, beating Brighton 4-0 at Wembley...

Local government: Why Pym's No 1 on the hit list; The troubles of the PLO; The press and the election; John Pardo's election column; Philip Howard on Cubism; Spectrum: The proud pirate of punk; The Dali scandal; Friday Page: The childless 10 per cent; Medical briefing: Sweden's welfare problems; Special Report, Pages 15-18: The London Business School's new Plowden Building was opened yesterday by Prince Charles...

Table with 2 columns: Home News, Law Report, Overseas, etc.

Labour defence split 'could cost election'

Mr Callaghan's rejection of Labour's non-nuclear defence policy angered party organizers and brought a claim that he could cost Labour the election...

Mr Foot denied that the question of Labour's leadership was at stake and that a vote of confidence had been taken on the issue...

By Julian Haviland and Anthony Bevins

Mr James Callaghan's rejection of the Labour Party's non-nuclear defence policy caused resentment and confusion yesterday among the party's campaign planners...

It looked like a classic gaffe, and reporters wondered if the leadership question was deliberately raised and a vote sought...

JUNE 24 '83

Table with 2 columns: Prior rebuked, GLC deadline, Labour insurance scheme, etc.

Mr Alex Kilson, the former party chairman, said Mr Callaghan's speech in Cardiff on Wednesday, in which he said that Britain should not give up Polaris submarines unilaterally...

Others had no compunction in reproaching the former party leader and Prime Minister Mr Kitson, who is chairman of Labour's defence committee...

At Labour's campaign press conference, where Mr Michael Foot made an emergency appearance to reduce the impact of Mr Callaghan's apostasy...

Mr Kitson, although an out-and-out unilateralist and on the far left of the party, is loyal to the Foot-Healey joint leadership and the manifesto compromise...

Mr Mortimer, normally sure-footed, astonished reporters by volunteering the news that when the committee met an hour before "we were all insistent: Michael Foot is the leader of the Party, speaks for the party and that is all that matters. We have agreed our manifesto"...

Mr Kitson, who is chairman of Labour's defence committee, said in Great Yarmouth that Mr Callaghan "lost us the 1979 election with his five per cent waffle policy, and he could be costing us this one"...

Polls asking wrong questions, Foot says

By David Felton

Mr Michael Foot last night dismissed as a "piece of nonsense" reports that Labour's campaign committee had met to pass a vote of confidence in his leadership...

Tory leader praised by Reagan

From Nicholas Ashford Washington

President Reagan yesterday entered the British election campaign by making statements in praise of Mrs Thatcher which seem certain to boost the Prime Minister's election prospects...

The Labour leader said there had been a "misapprehension" about what had happened at the campaign committee meeting...

He also said that she retained "a sort of veto power" over the firing of the cruise missiles...

Mr Foot, who was speaking on the Thames Television TV Eye programme, was asked whether he agreed that his leadership was one of the main reasons for the party's poor showing in the opinion polls...

He insisted that the main issue in the election was "jobs, jobs, jobs"...

A Harris Research Centre poll commissioned for the programme showed that the Tories have a 15 per cent lead over Labour, compared with a 10 per cent lead in a poll for the same programme last week...

The President and Mrs Thatcher have long been mutual admirers of each other and they are known to see eye-to-eye on most key political and economic issues...

Labour moderates 'caved in'

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Thatcher exploits defence split

The Labour Party's dilemma over its defence policy was exploited to the full by the Prime Minister last night when she said that Labour's support for unilateral nuclear disarmament made the prospect of war more likely...

defenceless nations which were overrun. The sight of easy pickings tempted the aggressor...

Mr Thatcher said that some of Labour's leaders knew that its defence policy was a dangerous nonsense...

Mr Michael Foot said at Labour's campaign press conference at Westminster yesterday that "a considerable chunk" was omitted from yesterday's editions of The Times of the text of his considered statement on Labour defence policy...

Labour, she said, was no longer the party of Gaitskell. "Fight, fight and fight again" speech against the present party leadership, Mrs Thatcher said that the so-called moderates had allowed the extremist left to win "and it has won, and won and won again"...

Widening her attack on the Labour Party, she said that the leaders were brave enough in the battle of words, yet when it came to the real battle for economic survival and lasting prosperity they had no stomach for the fight...



Embracing the feminine vote: Mr Foot encounters Miss Michelle Hardwood during an election drive in London. Photograph: Bill Warhurst.

Opposite views of tension in Middle East

Israelis dig in and step up readiness

From Christopher Walker, Jabal Bayada, Lebanon

Despite, or perhaps because of last week's US negotiated pact between Israel and Lebanon, unmistakable signs of preparations for war are now clearly visible on either side of the ceasefire line between Israel and Syria...

Army chief relaxes in Damascus

From Robert Fisk Damascus

War fever is one thing, but preparations for war are quite another. That, at least, is the lesson to be drawn in Damascus over the past 24 hours...

Senior Israeli officers are only too aware of the bitter irony that such an alert, and intense fortification work, should be set in train less than two weeks since Israel signed an agreement designed to get its troops out of Lebanon where 485 have so far died since the invasion last June 6...

War fever is one thing, but preparations for war are quite another. That, at least, is the lesson to be drawn in Damascus over the past 24 hours, where the government-controlled press has warned Israel of the dire consequences of a further conflict...

Here in one of the Israeli positions closest to the Syrian capital of Damascus, a mere 18 miles away, Israeli soldiers - stripped to the waist in the midday sun and assisted by giant bulldozers - have been busy piling huge boulders on to new fortifications...

It one relied upon the Syrian press for information, of course, one might think differently. "Syria will not back down," the newspaper Al-Baath - the organ of the ruling Baath party - announced yesterday...

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Although there are rumours in Damascus that reservists are to be called up before the end of the month, there has been no further reinforcement of Syrian troops in the Bekaa Valley...

First skirmishes in battle for P & O

By Jonathan Clare

The opening salvoes in the £290m battle for control of P&O the shipping and construction company, fired yesterday at the London headquarters of the Office of Fair Trading (OFT)...

The directors of both companies yesterday met the deputy director general of the OFT, Miss Elizabeth Llewellyn-Smith, to put their preliminary cases...

The OFT will decide in about three weeks whether it should advise the Trade Secretary to refer the case for investigation by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission...

Bomb explodes in centre of Bloemfontein

From Michael Hornsby Johannesburg

A bomb exploded in the centre of Bloemfontein, the capital of the Orange Free State, yesterday at 12.50 pm, destroying or damaging a number of cars and blowing out windows in buildings...

Policeman and milkman die in Ulster shootings

From Richard Ford Belfast

A police reservist and a milkman were killed in separate gun attacks in Northern Ireland yesterday amid fears that violence will increase in the last two weeks of the general election campaign...

Constable Colin Carson was killed while manning a checkpoint at the police station in Cookstown, Co Tyrone. Fifty minutes earlier, as Mr Trevor Close, aged 34, made a regular delivery to a shop in north Belfast, two men fired five shots at him at close range...

People Express granted licence

By Michael Bailey Transport Editor

A new era of cheap Atlantic air fares opens today when the 299 People Express Jumbo jet takes off from Gatwick after an unexpected overnight climb-down by the British Government in bilateral talks with the United States yesterday...

Telephones at the airline's offices in Gatwick and New York were flooded with calls as soon as it became known that Britain had agreed to the service...

The first flight by chartered Boeing 747 was expected to arrive at Gatwick at 6.55 this morning with all its 434 seats full after an overnight flight from New York. Seats were also expected to be full for the return flight at 10.25 this morning...

Flights are heavily booked for weeks ahead, despite the uncertainty of recent days when Britain dragged its feet over licence...

In New York, Mr Harold Parretti, the airline's head of operations, said that the new service marked a "major step forward in international aviation"...

At Gatwick, People Express said: "We are very excited, and deeply grateful to the British Department of Trade for going into late-night sessions to grant the licence"...

The British Government's delay in granting the licence collapsed inexplicably late on Wednesday night...

The American delegation clarified the application of domestic anti-trust laws to international aviation, and

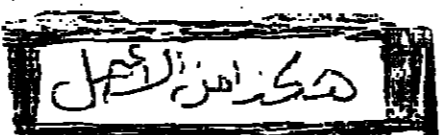


postponed for a week subpoenas requiring documents from British Airways and British Caledonian for the grand jury case against them for allegedly conspiring to force Laker Airways out of business...

They reassured the British officials that British Airways would not race similar proceedings in matching People Express low fares, unless there was an illegal act of conspiracy...

But there has apparently been Continued on back page, col 3

London Business School advertisement with logo, text about management studies, and contact information.



Writer of romances never spoke of men

By Craig Seton

Betty Trask, a writer of light romances who left nearly £400,000 in her will to the Society of Authors for an annual romantic fiction prize, had spent many years as a "poor" recluse in a tiny terrace house in Frome, Somerset, relying on neighbours for food.

None of the neighbours and acquaintances who ran errands for the spinster knew of her fortune. They said they had often wondered how Miss Trask, aged 77, who never spoke of men or past romances, could have written more than 50 romantic novels.

According to Mrs Christine May, Miss Trask, for all her prolific romantic writing, did not appear to like men and instead may have enjoyed the "perfect" romance only through her novels.

Mrs May said: "I think she used to dream of romances. I don't think she ever had a real romance of her own. It was just fantasy."

Miss Trask, who died in January in Frome, suffered from a heart ailment, was described as a very thin, white-haired woman, with an aristocratic manner, who had apparently enjoyed a successful career as a writer for women's magazines and a novelist in London before returning to Frome, her mother's home, at 20 years ago to live Oakfield Road, an unpretentious back street.

After her mother's death, she rarely went out, but apparently relied on neighbours and acquaintances to call and run her messages. She also became the scourge of the Frome library, having bows brought to her but on occasions failing to return them even when staff turned up on her doorstep.

None of her light romances can be found in the library today. Before moving into a geriatric hospital five years ago, Miss Trask had apparently tried to write her "memoirs", but she rarely gave any information about her life as a young woman in London.

Mrs Phyllis Bowring, a Frome Red Cross volunteer who collected books for Miss Trask from the library, said that the writer used to correspond with the late Frank Swinerton, the novelist and critic, but there was never any suggestion of a romance. She had never spoken of any man who may have played a part in her earlier life.

Mrs Bowring said: "She was not a person of these times. She was still Victorian, or Edwardian, and just lived in the past and had no interest in the present. She was always writing and her rooms were always covered in papers. I used to get her mainly biographies from the library and she liked to read books over and over again."

She also revealed that one of Miss Trask's novels, *Cotton Glove Country*, caused "lots of offence in Frome" because it was about the life of a prostitute, although it was supposed to be fiction certain people recognized themselves.

Miss Amy Carey, aged 77, who helped Miss Trask for many years, was apparently the only local woman mentioned in her will. She was left £200.

Grandmother is praised for shooting rescue
A triple shooting would almost certainly have claimed a fourth victim but for the courage of Mrs Rose Meehan, aged 63.

The police said yesterday that Mrs Meehan, a grandmother, tried to wrench a sawn-off shotgun from her son-in-law, Patrick Breslin, as he blasted at his estranged wife and daughter, aged 10. But he was too strong for her, so she grabbed the couple's younger daughter Stephanie, aged eight, and escaped to a neighbour's house.

Detective Chief Inspector Roy Bunn said: "There is no doubt... she saved the girl's life."

Drug industry rejects MPs' accusations of excess profits

By a Staff Reporter

The drug industry hit back yesterday at a report by MPs which said that excess profits had been made because the National Health Service pricing system failed to keep charges at a reasonable level.

The report, by the Public Accounts Committee, said nine drug companies had made £33m in excess profits from the NHS in two years. Health officials had been able to recoup only £1.7m and were trying to recover "substantially more" from one firm alone.

But Mr Peter Lumley, public affairs manager of the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry, which represents 150 drug companies, said most of the £33m was the result of increased productivity and efficiency. Almost none was due to increased prices.

Drug companies were allowed to exceed the profit targets set by the Department of Health and Social Security if most serious offenders were little more than a pious dream. "The main risk to public relations is not that the public as a whole perceives the price to be too high; rather it stems from a growing belief that the police no longer are able to provide to the ordinary citizen the minimum standard of protection to which he is entitled."

"Improving police-public relations therefore depends on high quality on beating back crime and disorder, for if the police cannot uphold the law

the danger is that the public will seek to do it themselves, and down that road lies chaos."

The public was just as appalled as policemen by cases where criminals resisting arrest could blast police officers with sawn-off shotguns and still avoid being convicted of attempted murder, said Mr Griffiths.

"The same goes for those fiddlers on the roof at Albany jail. The public, I suspect, was affronted to discover that these five men who have availed themselves of the priceless facilities of television and press to promote the attractions of such terrorist organizations as the IRA and FLO were men who in every case have been found guilty of multiple murder or brutal terrorism involving the death and suffering of totally innocent people. They appear to be serving what is likely to turn out to be little more than 15 years' imprisonment in a far from uncomfortable jail.

"The deterrent effect of punishment over past decades has been weakening and it is high time that Parliament took further action to redress the balance."

Officers reject jail action
By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Moves by prison officers to take industrial action to reduce the jail population failed overwhelmingly at their annual conference at Scarborough yesterday after fears were expressed that they would be committing "political suicide".

Mr David Evans, general secretary of the Prison Officers' Association, accused the Government of wanting an excuse to use its executive powers to release prisoners. As a party of law and order it could have said the action was forced on it.

"We would be the badbies," Mr Ivan Field, of Reading, said. But speaker after speaker condemned the "cess pits" which overcrowding had created and blamed successive governments.

Short-term alternatives to prison had not been successful, they said. Mr Robert Piper, of Canterbury said that in spite of the government's plans for new building a projected prison population of about 50,000 in England and Wales at the end of the decade would mean jails were still holding, 6,000 more than they were officially supposed to. Prisoners on remand, facing trial, were among the worst to suffer. One had been in Canterbury since March, 1982.

Eldon Griffiths calls for death penalty

By a Staff Reporter

There was a compelling case for the next Parliament to consider hanging for premeditated murder and terrorism, Mr Eldon Griffiths, Conservative candidate for Bury St Edmunds, said at the Police Federation conference in Blackpool yesterday.

For a cold-blooded killer to face the same sentence he imposed would be an invaluable restatement of society's determination that it was not going to tolerate the deliberate slaughter of the innocent, whether for political purposes or gain, he said.

Mr Griffiths said the prospects of the rehabilitation of most serious offenders was little more than a pious dream. "The main risk to public relations is not that the public as a whole perceives the price to be too high; rather it stems from a growing belief that the police no longer are able to provide to the ordinary citizen the minimum standard of protection to which he is entitled."

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Prison officers also voted to defend themselves against policies and judgments by European institutions which, they feel, are swinging the balance of power in United Kingdom prisons too much against them and towards the inmates.

Peace camp plans base blockade

By Nicholas Timmins

Thousands of anti-nuclear protesters are expected to take part in a four-day blockade of the US Air force base at Upper Heyford in Oxfordshire next week.

The base houses nuclear-capable F111 bombers and is being extended to take EF111 aircraft. The blockade of all 11 gates at the base had been organized by the strong peace camp which was set up outside the base at Easter last year. It is being supported by CND.

Since February, the 16 members of the peace camp have been touring CND's regional groups organizing support. At a press conference yesterday, members of the peace camp said they did not expect to stop the base functioning, but hoped they would interfere with its smooth running.

Scientists Against Nuclear Arms yesterday, launched a briefing pack on nuclear weapons aimed at the media and Parliamentary candidates. It argues for unilateral reciprocated disarmament as a process for achieving multilateral disarmament, reversing the process by which armament took place.

Broadmoor for boy's killer
Garfield Williams, aged 24, described as a dangerous psychopath, was ordered to be detained in Broadmoor for an unlimited period by the Central Criminal Court, for hurling a boy aged four to his death from the fifth-floor balcony of a London tower block.

Williams, unemployed, of St Raphael's Estate, Stonebridge, north-west London, was cleared of murder but convicted of the manslaughter of Wayne Carroll, of Fitzsimmons Court, Stonebridge.

Bail for PC on assault charge
A policeman accused of seriously injuring a garage owner, was remanded on unconditional bail until June 30 by Horseferry Road magistrates yesterday.

PC Brian Edward Renton, aged 27, of Parkchurch House, Grosvenor Avenue, Highbury, north London, is charged with unlawfully and maliciously inflicting grievous bodily harm on Mr Barry John Carfield at the police station in Upper Street, Islington.

University faces tenure challenge
The Association of University Teachers is taking legal advice to try to block attempts by Stirling University to abolish life tenure for all new academic appointments.

Lecturers at Stirling yesterday received copies of a plan to widen the grounds on which academics can be dismissed. Previously academics could be dismissed only for gross professional malpractice, but the new proposals would allow redundancies for other reasons, including financial cutbacks.

Chess setback
The Hastings International Chess Congress is seeking a new sponsor to replace ICL, the computer firm, which has pulled out after seven years. Hastings Council will consider a proposal to guarantee the event if a sponsor cannot be found.

Correction
The Times yesterday incorrectly attributed to Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of British Steel, a statement that if his plan to export semi-finished steel to the United States fell through it would be the responsibility of Labour Party and trade union opposition.



Weight-watcher: Dilberta, aged three, London zoo's elephant from Sri Lanka, being weighed for the first time yesterday. She tipped the scales at 740 kilos (Photograph: John Manning).

Libel damages for test-tube pioneer

Dr Robert Edwards, the test-tube baby pioneer, is to receive "very considerable" libel damages for a report alleging he had experimented on live human embryos, a High Court judge was told yesterday.

Dr Edwards, reader in physiology at Cambridge University, had sued the Press Association, the national news agency, and Mr Richard Woodman, the agency's medical correspondent. After hearing a statement in which the agency and Mr Woodman apologized to Dr Edwards for what they accepted was a wrong report and agreed to pay him damages and costs, Mr Justice Forbes gave leave for the record of the action to be withdrawn.

Mr Desmond Browne, for Dr Edwards, said that, with Mr Patrick Steptoe, he was responsible for the birth of the first child by in-vitro fertilization, and was the leading scientist in the research into human conception outside the womb. On September 26, 1982, Mr Woodman attended a meeting of the Medical Journalists' Association, which put questions over a telephone link to Dr Edwards about in-vitro

fertilization. Afterwards he wrote a report circulated to the Press Association's newspaper subscribers alleging that Dr Edwards had disclosed that he had carried out experiments on between 14 and 15 spare human embryos.

The article also quoted the secretary of the British Medical Association as saying that they were not in favour of freezing and cloning human embryos. The Press Association's report formed the basis of articles repeating the allegations in *The Guardian*, *The Times*, *The Daily Telegraph* and Dr Edwards' local newspaper, the *Eastern Daily Press*, of September 27. It was also the basis of an editorial in *The Times* on September 29 for which the publishers had apologized in open court.

Mr Browne said that Mr Woodman's report had misrepresented Dr Edwards's remarks. A tape recording showed that Dr Edwards had not stated that he had experimented on live human embryos. He had repeatedly made clear that his scientific work had been strictly confined to procedures serving currently accepted treatment of infertility.

Ingres refund offered
By Geraldine Norman

Mrs Catherine Curran, aged 56, of Chester Square, London, estimated the value of her art collection at \$4.5m (£2.8m) when she took the witness box yesterday in the High Court. She is suing Hazlitt, Gooden and Fox, a leading London firm of art dealers, for the purchase price (\$18,000), and 13 years of interest payments on the sum, of an Ingres drawing she bought from them which has turned out to be a photographic copy.

At the start of yesterday's hearing all allegations concerning negligence on the part of the Hazlitt Gallery were dropped. It was also made clear by Lord Rawlinson, the gallery's counsel, that Hazlitt had offered to refund the purchase price immediately the mistake was discovered. The gallery had received no reply to that offer until a letter arrived from Mrs Curran's solicitor asking for £40,000.

Lord Rawlinson told the court that whether the gallery won or lost the case it intended to return the purchase price to Mrs Curran.

Cowley car workers to continue their fight

From Our Correspondent Oxford

Workers at BL's Austin Rover car Assembly plant at Cowley near Oxford, voted again yesterday to fight to retain the early finish they have enjoyed for 30 years.

Austin Rover wants to phase it out as part of a drive for greater productivity, the company says that if workers stay for another six minutes in the daytime and another six minutes at night they will qualify for bonuses up to £30 a week. Under the present scheme the limit is £18.75.

BL workers say they would earn only £75 a year during the extra time while the factory turns out cars worth an additional £25m.

Previous moves to end the early finish triggered off the so-called "washing-up time" strike which cost car production worth £120m.

At two mass meetings only six of the 5,223 workers voted to accept the company's terms, senior shop stewards said yesterday.

Austin Rover called in full-time union officials for a full-scale strike yesterday when the failure to reach a local agreement was recognized.

Now national union leaders will be called in. But because of the intervening work's holiday further top-level talks before the general election seems unlikely.

Mr Bobby Fryer, senior shop steward for the Transport and General Workers' Union, said that workers wanted the new scheme to be implemented now so that the higher bonuses they were earning through record output could be paid.

They suggest a ceiling of £28.50, setting aside the issue of the early finish. He said that the company had told them that in the extra working time being sought, workers could earn a maximum of £1.50 a week.

He disclosed that a proposal by the union for a one-off payment of £500 to buy out the early finish, had been rejected by the company, it would cost them around £2.5m.

St James Club
On May 17 we reported on recent hygiene prosecutions by Westminster City Council against "Brook's" the St James's club and the Bristol Hotel in Mayfair. This reference to the St James's club was intended to identify Brook's club, and in no sense to suggest that the St James's Club, an entirely separate establishment, also faced prosecution. We apologise to the latter for any confusion or embarrassment caused.

'Lavish rate' of beating reported by teachers
By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Teachers in more than a hundred local education authorities are said still to be meeting out beatings at a "lavish rate" in spite of last year's European Court ruling that such corporal punishment against parents' wishes breaches human rights law.

In a report published yesterday, the Society of Teachers Opposed to Physical Punishment gives details of 200 beatings, among several thousand reported last year.

Science report Boost to killer cells may stem leprosy

By the Staff of Nature

The best treatment for the worst form of leprosy may come in the form of a protein normally produced by white cells of the blood, according to a joint Ethiopian-Norwegian study of leprosy patients. The white blood cells of the worst patients are unable to make the protein, and, unless provided with it, are unable to fight off the bacteria that cause leprosy.

In a normal immune response against invading bacteria, a "killer" type of white blood cell aids the production of a "killer" type. Killer cells are mobilized as part of the action designed to destroy the bacteria.

The system fails in some leprosy patients for reasons that have become clearer as a result of experiments by Dr Haregewoin Abebe, Dr Ewelehun Ayele and Dr Yemaneberhan Tabebe. Added to this in collaboration with Dr Tore Gudal and Dr Abu Salim Mustafa in Oslo.

Their laboratory tests of the white blood cells of a selection of leprosy patients show that cells from the worst affected group of patients barely began to turn into killer cells when challenged with the leprosy bacterium. Nor did they respond normally by producing the protein, known as interleukin 2, that plays an important part in the generation of killer cells. But when a biological fluid rich in interleukin 2 was added to the white cells, their ability to produce killer cells was largely restored.

Although that immediately suggests treating leprosy with interleukin 2, Dr Gudal is not ready to do so. In the first place, he wants to be certain that it is the interleukin 2 and not some minor contaminant of the biological fluid.

Then there is the problem of obtaining adequate supplies of interleukin 2. Fortunately, that should soon be solved by the advent of genetically engineered bacteria that can produce it on demand; already a Japanese team have reported a successful start towards that goal. Finally, there is the question of whether interleukin 2 would work in a patient as it does in the test tube.

Source: *Nature*, May 26 (vol 303, pp 212-193). ©Nature-Times News Service, 1983.

Battered baby plea fails
From Our Own Correspondent

A judge yesterday refused to allow Oxfordshire social services to return a battered baby girl to her mother.

After hearing that Samantha Davies, aged seven months, was to be returned to her mother within days, Judge Mynett, QC, said at Oxford Crown Court: "I will not have that at all. I simply am not going to take the risk with this child, considering what has happened, unless the social services are prepared to be more realistic. I am going to have that child protected."

He ordered that the child be left in the care of foster parents, with her mother allowed access each day.

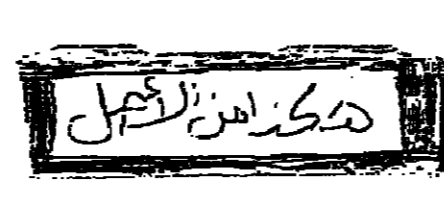
The judge said when the social services felt the mother, Mrs Jean Davies, of Didcot, Oxfordshire, had overcome her problems and was able to cope with the family again the case was to be brought back before him.

Mrs Davies, aged 26, had pleaded guilty to inflicting grievous bodily harm on her child, then aged nine weeks, by throwing her against the table. The child suffered multiple skull fractures, was temporarily blinded and could grow up mentally handicapped, doctors told the court.

Mrs Davies, who has two other children, aged seven and five was placed on two years' probation.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT
Antartex announce a show and sale of sheepskin coats at the Holiday Inn, Sloane Street, SW1 from Friday to Monday 27th - 30th May. 10.30am - 9.30pm. 100's of unbeatable bargains. Bring your sheepskin coat for dry cleaning. **Antartex**

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Graduate courses must be cut by year for jobs training, study says

Education in sixth forms and universities is too specialized, according to the first thorough review of higher education since the Robbins report of 1963.

The result is that universities, polytechnics and colleges are producing graduates "who have spent too long acquiring knowledge over too narrow a range" and who are "better at individual competition than co-operative ventures", the study says.

The report *Excellence in Diversity*, is by a group of eight distinguished industrialists and academics who, funded mainly by the Leverhulme Trust, have been studying higher education for more than two years. The study has been administered by the Society for Research into Higher Education.

While universities were turning out graduates with highly specialized knowledge and experienced in competing with each other, many employers were looking for graduates who could adapt, tackle problems, communicate effectively, work with others and commit themselves to broad objectives.

To break out of "this vicious circle", the report recommends a different type of initial qualification in universities, polytechnics and colleges. Two-year pass degrees or diplomas, it claims, would



Sir Bruce Williams: Note of dissent

provide more suitable general preparation for employment or further study or training than the present three-year specialized honours degree system.

The two-year course would normally adopt a broad approach, preparing the way for later specialization. Three layers of higher level studies would then be provided above the basic two-year course, leading to an honours degree, a master's degree or a doctorate.

The report believes that less specialized initial courses would provide greater flexibility than the present system. They would allow students to transfer more easily either within institutions, or courses at the end of two years. They could also resume their studies later.

The report recommends the continuation of the means-tested system of mandatory grants for all two-year initial courses. Students on later courses would be eligible for scholarships, special grants or sponsorship by employers.

A government-backed loan scheme would also be available for students who were not eligible for adequate grants.

Sir Bruce Williams, director of the Technical Change Centre, entered a note of dissent, expressing doubts about the standing of the proposed two-year courses.

The report also proposes a review body for the universities to monitor standards as competition increases for students and resources. Universities would continue to be funded separately from the polytechnics and colleges, although a merger of the University Grants Committee and the national advisory body would remain a long-term option.

Excellence in Diversity, Society for Research into Higher Education, Surrey University, Guildford, Surrey GU2 5XH, £3.75.



Campaigners hunt whalers

Balaena is a Latin word for whale, and the Balaenoptera (above) is dedicated to saving the giant maritime mammals from cruelty and extinction. The boat was seen off yesterday in London by Mr William Jordan (right), who is an adviser to the British team on the International Whaling Commission and director of the People's Trust

for Endangered Species, a wildlife charity which is helping to finance the Balaenoptera's voyage to Norwegian hunting grounds.

The campaigners intend to collect evidence that Norwegian boats are using cruel methods and exceeding international quotas in their hunt for the minke whale.

Photograph: Suresh Karadia



IRA man in bomb campaign is jailed for 17 years

A Belfast man was jailed for 17 years by the Central Criminal Court yesterday for his part in an IRA bombing campaign which left a £3m trail of damage in Britain in 1978 and 1979.

John Gabriel McComb, aged 29, from Arran Street, in the Short Strand area, was with Gerard Tuite in the squad which planted 16 bombs in London and provincial cities. The jury was told by Mr David Jeffreys QC, for the prosecution.

As he was sentenced, McComb blew a kiss to his wife, Teresa, aged 23, in the public gallery and bowed to the judge. Mr Justice French told him: "The sentence must reflect the fear and the appalling danger that you inflicted on innocent and peaceful members of the public. You knew perfectly well the risk you ran if you were caught and found guilty."

The jury convicted McComb on an 11-to-one majority verdict of conspiring with Tuite and others to cause explosions between April, 1978, and February, 1979.

The squad's mission, code-named "Operation Oxo" by the provisional IRA, was to strike "over the country at will". The team of six to nine members split into two to obtain maximum effect by operating in cities simultaneously, Mr Jeffreys said.

They planted bombs in London, Bristol, Southampton, Coventry, Manchester, Liverpool, Canvey Island, Essex, and on the M6 in Leicestershire.

In Greenwich, a bomb ignited a gasometer by the Blackwall Tunnel on January 18, 1979, sending flames 300ft into the sky. More than £1m worth of damage was caused, the jury was told. A warning was issued by the Press Association 45 minutes beforehand.

The same night, the terrorists planted a bomb beside a tank containing 750,000 gallons of aviation fuel at Canvey Island, Essex. It caused an enormous explosion which split the tank, but disaster was averted by the prompt arrival of the fire brigade and because the fuel failed to ignite.

No one was killed in the campaign, Mr Jeffreys said, partly because five of the devices failed to go off.

One, left in a car in Windmill Street, Soho, in central London, on December 18, 1979, would have killed or seriously injured anyone in a 50yd radius. It was dismantled by an explosives expert.

McComb kissed the Bible before giving evidence in court. He stammered and cross-examination had to be abandoned twice because he was said to be suffering "from nervous tension".

The judge also granted him a brief adjournment when he appeared to be overcome with emotion while recalling a 1972 car bomb explosion in Belfast in which some of his friends were victims.

But, Mr Jeffreys said, it was "purely by chance" that on one had been killed. He alleged that it was McComb's voice on a tape recorded "hit list", containing the names of prominent people, which was found underneath floorboards of a flat at Trafalgar Road, Greenwich, where McComb's and Tuite's fingerprints were also found.

Prosecution and defence experts clashed on identifying the voice, and Mr Justice French directed the jury that the only "safe way" for them to proceed was to assume it was not that of McComb.

Mr McComb, whose innocent appearance and stutter was an advantage to the terrorists in obtaining "safe" accommodation and hired cars, was arrested in January last year.

Det Chief Supt Philip Corbett told the court that in December, 1972, McComb had been sentenced to 10 years for taking part, while armed with a revolver, in IRA robberies on four post offices in Belfast. He was released in 1977.

Sex attacker jailed for the third time

Terence Welsh, aged 31, who had been jailed twice for sexual attacks on young girls, was sentenced to a total of 12 years yesterday for a further series of indecent assaults.

Welsh, a former trainee building inspector, posed as a policeman to lure the girls into his car, where he indecently assaulted them, Bristol Crown Court was told.

Mr Justice Stuart-Smith told him: "For something like three months you have been preying on those young girls in a way that can only be described as vile and despicable. The indecent assaults you committed on them were in most cases of the worst possible kind."

With younger girls he pretended that "mummy" was hurt and that he would take them to hospital, and with older girls he said he was taking them to the police station for riding their bicycles without lights, Mr Roderick Denyer, for the prosecution said. But once inside his car, he drove them to quiet lanes and assaulted them.

Welsh, of Bernard Street, Southampton, admitted five charges of abducting and indecently assaulting young girls and a charge of inciting a girl, aged 13, to commit an act of gross indecency.

Mr Denyer said that between September 18 and December 13, 1982, Welsh, had travelled around the South-west in his car posing as a policeman. He took a girl aged seven

from her home in Swindon, Wiltshire, to somewhere near Newbury, Berkshire, where he indecently assaulted her.

A girl aged 13 was abducted in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. He produced a pair of handcuffs and showed her a knife, telling her not to scream or he would use it. She was made to get undressed and when he took his own trousers off, the girl noticed he was wearing women's underwear.

A girl aged 15 from Havant, Hampshire, was assaulted on a grass verge after she had tried to escape.

Two girls aged 11 from Swindon, Wiltshire, were his last victims. They were taken on a seven-hour car journey.

Eventually he stopped and pushed a knife into the girl's hand, and threatened her. Both girls were made to take off most of their clothing and he committed offences against both of them.

Welsh was arrested in Southampton in December. He later made a 53-page statement admitting all the offences.

Welsh was jailed for three-and-a-half years at Winchester Crown Court in 1976 for an indecent assault on a girl aged 10 in Southampton. She was in a coma for several days afterwards. In 1980, he was jailed for two years at Gloucester Crown Court for sexually assaulting a Girl Guide in Cheltenham. He was released in June 1981.

10p a week cover for £1/4m bill

From Our Correspondent Derby

Mrs Kitty Lever, aged 63, owner of a Jack Russell terrier which ran into the path of a motor cycle causing an accident in which the teenage rider suffered serious brain damage, has been ordered to pay £250,000 damages.

But Mrs Lever a widow, of Harrogate Road, Colwick, Nottingham, will be able to pay the damages, thanks to a 10p-a-week public liability insurance policy run by Nottingham City Council for its tenants by the Guardian Royal Assurance group.

Mr Andrew Northern, who at the time of the accident four years ago was 18, underwent two brain operations. He has since been cared for at his home in Nottingham by his family.

The dog called Sammy was killed in the accident. Witnesses told Nottingham Crown Court on Wednesday that the dog was known in the area for chasing traffic, especially motor cycles, and often raced after buses.

Mr Justice Skinner ruled that Mrs Lever had been negligent in that she knew it was the dog's habit to chase traffic.

Nottingham City Council said last night that the clause under which Mrs Lever was covered was included as an optional extra to the house contents insurance policy offered to tenants.

Policeman defends sea rescue order

The police officer in charge of the rescue operation to save five young people from the sea at Blackpool told yesterday why he ordered his men not to go into the water after them.

The drama began when 16-year-old Sally Heaney was swept off a ramp by a wave.

Andrew McConnell, aged 20, jumped in after her when a lifebelt failed to reach Miss Heaney, who has represented Blackpool in swimming championships. As they were swept

rapidly along the shoreline by turbulent water and a strong wind, Miss Heaney's brother, Patrick, aged 19, and friends, Paul Holt and Christopher Johnson, both aged 20, plunged in to help.

The police said they were all fortunate that pedestrians, including several off-duty officers attending the annual Police Federation conference, acted quickly and threw lifelines into the water.

PC Anthony Riley put on a

safety harness and waded into the water to help one of the boys to safety. Superintendent Roy Howarth said the officer in charge at the scene decided it would be unsafe for any more of his men to enter the water and that the lifelines were adequate.

It was fortunate that the tide was running south along the shore on Wednesday night - not north as happened during the earlier tragedy. Those in the water had stayed close to shore, he said.

Citizen's arrest in golf ball row

Two wrongs did not make a right when a golfer and butcher confronted each other in the butcher's back garden, a judge said in the High Court yesterday. Mr Joseph Kennedy, a golfer, was retrieving a ball snatched by two Yorkshire Terriers, Sweetie and Bundles, owned by Mr Victor Hughes, a butcher. Mr Hughes said he suspected Mr Kennedy of being a burglar.

The ensuing incident, in which Mr Hughes made a citizen's arrest and held Mr Kennedy until the police arrived, led to the court hearing in London yesterday.

Mr Kennedy, aged 41, a solicitor, was awarded £50 damages against Mr Hughes, aged 45, for assault and false imprisonment. But each man was ordered to pay his own costs, which are estimated at several hundred pounds.

The dispute should have been settled "by a handshake and a drink" rather than a court action, Mr Justice Nolan said. Mr Kennedy was wrong to trespass on Mr Hughes's garden next to the golf course at Harrow. But trespass was not a criminal offence justifying a citizen's arrest. The judge added: "These two wrongs did not make a right. They caused each of the parties to become intensely angry and caused bad feelings which exist even today."

The incident began on the seventh tee at Harrow School Golf Club on May 24th last year when one of the dogs snatched Mr Kennedy's ball and took it home.

But when Mr Kennedy climbed through the garden fence of 16 Littleton Crescent to retrieve it, he was confronted by Mr Hughes.

Mr Kennedy, of High Street, Harrow, was allowed to leave when the police arrived. The next day he issued a writ.

The judge said Mr Kennedy "did what many men would have done in a similar position", but he was wrong, he became a trespasser. Mr Hughes was also wrong to detain him. Mr Kennedy had made out his claim for assault and false imprisonment and would be awarded £25 on each count.

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European 'Supabus' cuts fares

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

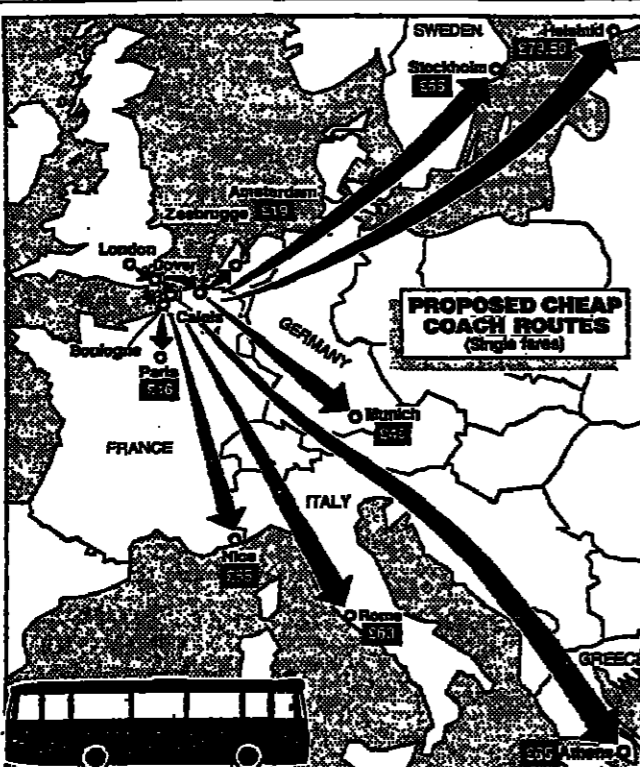
A new network of reliable low-cost coach services between Britain, the Irish Republic and the Continent is being launched by British state-owned National Bus Company in association with British and Continental operators this week.

The fares will be far below regular rail and air fares, and in line with the cheapest budget-air fares, which are not available to all the destinations.

A London to Paris return ticket would cost £28.50, London to Athens would be £107, London to Rome, £119, and London to Amsterdam, £34.

The emphasis is on safety and reliability as much as fares, after incidents in recent years when travellers have been stranded by coaches that failed to make the journey, or worse, suffered motorway accidents.

The British Government has been taking action against disreputable operators over the past year, and National Bus emphasized yesterday that its own coaches and those



of Continental partners would be approved by the governments of all countries.

Those are France, West Germany, Italy, Greece, Belgium, Holland, the Irish Republic, Spain, Portugal, Sweden, Norway, Finland and Switzerland.

The "Supabus" replaces the former private Magic Bus service which went out of business last Christmas. It will be managed for National Bus by Mr David Randall, aged 31, former general manager of Magic Bus.

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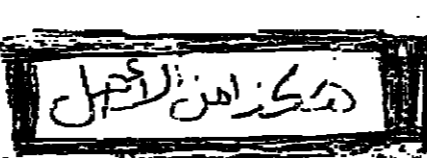
Tilcon is one of Britain's largest producers of aggregates, providing materials and services for road building, construction and other uses; it has similar operations in the north east of the USA.

Thomas Tilling



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Builders' Merchants, Construction Materials and Services, Electronic Equipment and Supplies, Energy Equipment, Health Care, Electrical Equipment, Distribution, Insurance, Manufacturing, Engineering, Furniture, Publishing, Textiles, Tiles and Pottery, Japan Trading.



Coded Thatcher rebuke for Prior criticism of hardline approach

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister yesterday dealt firmly with Mr James Prior's doubts about the hardline presentation of the Government's economic policies.

The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland said in a speech at Chippenham, Wiltshire, on Wednesday night: "You cannot tell people the whole time that they must take the medicine, unless you actually show them that the medicine is going to result in something better for them afterwards."

Mrs Thatcher said at her campaign press conference yesterday that there had been no official press release on the speech, itself a coded rebuke for her Cabinet colleague, but she said that she had heard "the bit that was reported on radio".

She then launched into a long catalogue of the Government's record - "all actual signs of hope", she said. "Some of them have already been realized, and will go on improving. Others have yet to bear fruit."

Mrs Thatcher said: "When it comes to what most people tend to judge by, when they are talking about sacrifices and hope, the pensioners are better off than they were under Labour, because they have got more spending power; those on average earnings and above,

indeed most people, have more net take-home pay; and there are more doctors and nurses in the National Health Service.

"I would say that those are very, very real signs, as I am sure that Jim would be the first to say."

In fact, Mr Prior insisted in his speech that the Conservative Party must not neglect the people in its determination to push forward into the new technologies, and that that was one of the most important messages of the campaign. He also castigated the "yah-boo"

politics which had begun to dominate media coverage of the campaign; implicit criticism of his more colourful Cabinet colleagues.

Mrs Shirley Williams, of the SDP/Liberal Alliance, said at its campaign press conference: "I think Mr Prior and Mr Pym are showing great courage."

"It cannot be easy in a situation in which the whip is being cracked and people are being made to jump through hoops, to grow before doing so. They have turned and growled."



Mr Prior: "I shall state my views"

Speaking in Bethel later, Mr Prior defended Wednesday's speech. He said: "Mrs Thatcher knows my views and she knows I am going to state my views," (the Press Association reports). He added: "I am a living embodiment of Mrs Thatcher's ability to say that the Conservative Party is a broadly-based party that can appeal to all sections of opinion."

"The country is coming through a very difficult period," he said "and if you are telling people to accept that we have to move out of the old industrial age with all its consequences, then you must be able to show that the pain and medicine is worthwhile."

Broadcast leaked to Labour

It is believed senior Scottish Tories met in Edinburgh yesterday to decide whether to scrap their final election television broadcast, scheduled for June 3, after a copy of its transcript was given to Labour Party headquarters in Glasgow. A transcript of last night's Tory television broadcast was also leaked, but it was too late to halt its showing.

Such scripts are kept secret until transmission to give maximum impact, and it is believed Tory party officials are trying to track down the culprit. The Labour party is drawing up detailed rebuttals of every statement in the transcript. Next Friday's broadcast, scheduled to go out on all channels, features Mr Alex Fletcher, the Scottish Industry Minister, and Mr Michael Antram, the Scottish party chairman.

It opens with shots of dinosaurs, a mammoth, dodos and ostriches and carried the comment: "History is littered with examples of species that refused to adapt to the march of time."

Mr Fletcher lists Tory aid to Scottish industry and the broadcast closes with Mr Antram saying: "This is a crucial election for our country. It will decide whether we go on to capitalize on the work we have done over the past four years, or whether we return to the failed remedies of the past. Scottish Conservative Party officials said earlier they were confident that those responsible for the leak were not part of their organization. A similar statement was also issued by Taylor & Partners, the Edinburgh advertising consultants who prepared the five-minute broadcast at a cost of £7,500.

Mr Harry Conroy, the Scottish Labour Party press spokesman said: "Using dinosaurs and dodos is bringing the political debate down to a very low level indeed. However, we will be rebutting every statement made in these broadcasts over the next few days using the relevant candidates."



Mr Meyer in the Rhondda: Undaunted in Labour's safest seat

True blue message from a red Daimler

From Tim James Cardiff

Cynics might say that the political fate or hope of the Rhondda was decided two weeks ago when, after a fractions electoral procedure, the Labour Party decided that Mr Alan Rogers would bear the socialist standard which has flown unfurled in the valley for more than sixty years.

But driving in his red Daimler through the narrow canyons of terraced houses, and unabashed by the clapping of history, steers Mr Peter John Elerman Meyer, the Conservative candidate.

In his three-piece striped suit, Mr Meyer makes no concessions to modify or dilute his true blue message. Expressed simply it is "look

around you - the once mighty valley is dying, and where has your unbending allegiance got you?"

It is a question which Keir Hardie, who became, two valleys away, the first Labour MP, might well have asked himself, although he would undoubtedly have blamed Thatcherism and the lack of a proper socialist programme for the decline of a community whose efforts once fuelled the empire.

Expressed crudely, if Mr Meyer wins the Rhondda then the Labour Party would be blasted out of existence for it is, with a majority of more than 31,000, the safest seat in Britain.

It is for Labour their loftiest peak which may explain why Mr Meyer is an accomplished

silver star standard skier. His insistence that high altitudes do not trouble him, makes him ideal for tackling what for any Conservative must represent, in climbing terms, a winter ascent of Everest in tennis shoes without oxygen.

But Mr Meyer, who has been a member of the South Glamorgan county council for 10 years, is untroubled by the task. "I think the odds are stacked against me, but even in the Rhondda the Labour Party is crumbling, and I would be quite happy to be the undertaker."

He believes that the electorate have become disillusioned by the "Tammany Hall" style of the Labour Party in South Wales which leads, he claims, to nepotism with headmasters and senior teachers, for

example, being chosen for their political leanings rather than their professional abilities.

"Just look at the Rhondda. It is a pretty depressing place to visit because nothing has been developed, not even a decent road through the valley, although it has been controlled by a Labour county council for years."

"But, in spite of that, the Labour Party has been almost a quasi-religion here with the result that the electorate has been taken for granted for too long."

"I do encounter hatred among some of the older people, who remember the bad times, but the young are beginning to realize that Labour has let them down and are willing to listen to us."

Us versus the rest, Sinn Fein says

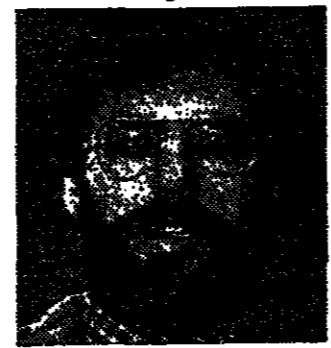
By Richard Ford

Under the slogan, the Voice of Principled Leadership, the Provisional Sinn Fein, political wing of the IRA, launched its election manifesto yesterday with the aim of increasing its vote by 50 per cent in an election which it claims is "us versus the rest."

The party is fielding 14 candidates with Mr Gerry Adams, its vice-president, favoured to win West Belfast and "loyalist" disunity in Mid Ulster increasing the prospects of success for Mr Danny Morrison, the organization's publicity director.

Mr Adams urged Britain to allow a peaceful election in republican areas by withdrawing the security forces. If it did not happen, "they are going to get IRA attacks on them."

He denied there was any connection between the level of IRA violence and the Sinn Fein's election campaign, saying that in a guerrilla war there were always troughs and peaks. But he admitted that the 1,000lb



Mr Adams: "Troughs and peaks of war."

van bomb which caused extensive damage to homes in Andersonstown on Tuesday raised difficulties when seeking support.

The manifesto was support for the Sinn Fein's stand against the British Government and loyalism in favour of national reunification and the setting up of a 32-county democratic socialist republic.

It will not take any seats at Westminster

'Feuding helps Alliance'

From A Staff Reporter

Full support for the Northern Ireland Assembly and a call for cross-community co-operation, leading to political progress, are the main planks in the Alliance Party's campaign in 12 of the province's constituencies.

Mr Oliver Napier, the party leader, says the intracommunity feuding between the Social Democratic and Labour Party, and the

Official Unionist Party and Democratic Unionist Party was helping his party's prospects.

The manifesto calls for the introduction of a question time in the assembly for ministers in the Northern Ireland Office, broadcasting of debates, and an increase in the time available for examining proposed legislation.

Teachers' poll gives Tories 16% lead

By Philip Venning, of The Times Educational Supplement

The Conservatives remain clear favourites among teachers in spite of four years of education cuts. This is revealed by a survey of how teachers in England and Wales expect to vote, carried out by NOP for The Times Educational Supplement and published today.

The survey also shows that more teachers expect to vote for the SDP/Liberal Alliance than for the Labour Party. As in polls commissioned by the TES at earlier elections, these results contradict the popular left-wing image of teachers.

Asked how they intended to vote, 44 per cent said Conservative, 28 per cent Labour and only 26 per cent Alliance. This represents a substantial switch to the Alliance, rather more at the expense of Labour than the Conservatives, and is well above the level of Alliance support indicated for the electorate as a whole.

In spite of the education cuts which have meant that most teachers have had to work harder, under more difficult conditions, teachers who voted Conservative in 1979 remain the most loyal. Nearly nine out of 10 expect to do so again. Only three-quarters of former Labour and Liberal voters intend to support their respective parties this time.

On the whole, it is secondary school teachers, two fifths of whom voted Labour in 1979, who are most responsible for the decline in Labour support and the growth in Alliance popularity. But primary teach-

ers, overall the strongest Tories, have also shown interest in the Alliance.

The most marked difference in voting intentions is between newish teachers (those with under five years' teaching experience) and their longer serving colleagues. Only 28 per cent of the former expect to vote Conservative compared with 47 per cent of the latter. Generally the Conservatives are the most popular with women primary teacher over 35, while Labour does best from young male teachers.

The 559 teachers in the sample were also asked how important in the election they considered a choice of 10 education issues. Top of the list came pre-school education, well ahead of more apparently controversial party issues.

The poll surprisingly reveals that nearly half the teachers are willing to have their pay and promotion based on an annual assessment of their performance on a three-quarters scale that a stand should be taken against racialism in the classroom. Even Conservative voting teachers overwhelmingly agreed with the latter.

Compulsory political education and peace studies divided the sample, with Labour voters most enthusiastic. In line with their overall Conservative preferences, a majority favour corporal punishment and compulsory religious education, though there was general opposition to one idea popular with ministers, education vouchers.

THE ISSUES ELECTORAL REFORM

Strangely absent vital topics

By Julian Haviland Political Editor

The Labour Party proposes to abolish the House of Lords. The Alliance would overturn the whole basis on which elections are fought by introducing proportional representation. The Conservative Party, true to its nature, will fiercely resist both ideas unless it is forced to strike a bargain.

Neither proposal has yet broken surface during the campaign to become an urgent issue, but since either change would be far-reaching and irreversible the parties' positions are worth examination.

The only constitutional change which is actively debated is devolution, but that debate is hardly heard in England. It will be examined in a later article.

Alone of the serious contenders for government the Alliance advocates proportional representation. The Liberal Party has favoured it since 1922, when it was already in steep decline under the first-past-the-post system and the Social Democrats have had from their beginning, in the preamble to their constitution, a commitment to "fairer systems of elections at every level".

The system the Alliance prefers is the single transferable vote in multi-member constituencies grouped in "natural communities", with up to seven or eight members in some big cities.

The meagre reward in seats which the present system allows any third party with 30 per cent or less of the popular vote is explanation enough for the Alliance's enthusiasm.

But it argues that PR will oblige parties to aim more for the centre ground and ensure that governments, in need of broader popular support, will be less dogmatic and extreme.

The disdain of the Conservatives and Labour is shown in their manifestos which are both silent on PR. Both parties spurn the idea that they might agree to PR as the price for Alliance support in the next Parliament, but circumstances alter cases.

Labour's 1982 programme the fullest account of the party's medium-term intentions approved last year, says it is its intention to abolish the House of Lords in the lifetime of the next Parliament. Its revising functions would be undertaken by a new Commons committee.

But Labour's Manifesto is less urgent. Abolition would come "as quickly as possible", with a Bill in the first session to remove the Lords' legislative powers - except for the power to prevent the Commons from its own life.

Under the Parliament Acts, the Lords could hold up such a Bill for a year, but no longer. Mr Wedgwood Benn, who like Mr Michael Foot, is an enthusiastic abolitionist, has argued for the rapid creation of enough suicidal peers to vote the Lords out of existence at once. That has its difficulties, but there is no doubt that a sufficiently determined Labour Government could quickly put the Lords out of business.

So it is surprising that the Conservatives show no sign that they see the Lords as seriously threatened. Their manifesto says they will ensure that the Upper House "has a secure and effective future".

But there is no indication of how the Lords' future will be assured. The Conservatives' campaign guide says it has long been the party's tradition to seek constructive reform of the Lords but most of the present Cabinet appear to have given little thought to the acknowledged need for reform.

Tomorrow: Animal welfare

CONSTITUENCY PROFILE Cambridge

The big stars descend

CANDIDATES Rhodes James C Jones L Oakeshott SDP/ALI J. Dougre-Lewis Loony Soc.

The galaxy of political stars descending on Cambridge is ample proof that all the parties believe they can achieve victory in the university city.

After being a Conservative stronghold for all but one of the last 33 years, boundary changes have removed 10,000 voters in two of the party's strongest wards, and theoretically opened the door for Labour or the Alliance.

Certainly the local elections earlier this month have given Mrs Janet Jones, a local county councillor and Labour candidate, cause for hope. In the 12 wards that make up the new seat her party polled 39 per cent of the votes, the Conservatives 32 per cent and the Alliance 29 per cent.

But the electors of Cambridge have a record of voting differently in parliamentary and municipal elections. In May 1979, for example, they rejected Robert Rhodes James, MP since 1976, with a comfortable 5,000 majority and on the same day voted the Tory city council out of power.

Mr Rhodes James, an historian who is firmly on the

Profile of Cambridge

1981 % Own Occ	68
1981 % Own Occ	45.0
1981 % Loc Auth	37.9
1981 % Black/Asian	3.5
1981 % Mid CI	83.3
1981 % Prof man	18.3
1982 BBC/ITN national result	67,223

Key: % Owner Occ: proportion owning their own homes; % Loc auth: proportion of council tenants; % Black/Asian: proportion from New Commonwealth or Pakistan; % Mid CI: proportion of non-manual workers; % Prof Man: Professionals, higher managers, and independent business; BBC/ITN national result: total of what result would have been in 1979 in new boundary constituencies by joint BBC/ITN study team.

1979 general election: R V S James 35,262; M H Jones 14,023; J D Oakeshott 11,772; J L Dougre-Lewis 7,722; J S Loony Soc 4,716.

For that reason, and because she knows that 11,000 students entitled to vote are predominantly Conservative, she is concentrating her campaign "outside the secluded corridors of academic power - because that is not the real Cambridge".

She hopes the traditional differences between "town and gown" will be to her advantage. "Gown will split in the practical ways on who and what they want to see as government after the election, but the town will base its decision much more on the things that concern them as people living in this city."

His principal achievement, he says, has been to emphasize the link between higher education, research and development, and jobs and prosperity - and so keep unemployment to the lowest rate in any city in the country.

Mrs Jones, however, describes Mr Rhodes James as "a lousy constituency MP" who is more interested in writing books. "In that I would like to help him achieve fulfilment", she says.

"The deciding factor in this election will be people outside the university who are more concerned now than ever before about their future and that of their children."

For that reason, and because she knows that 11,000 students entitled to vote are predominantly Conservative, she is concentrating her campaign "outside the secluded corridors of academic power - because that is not the real Cambridge".

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Mrs Jones: Local polls gave cause for hope

Mr Matthew Oakeshott, a former political adviser to Mr Roy Jenkins, is representing the Alliance in a seat described recently by the SDP leader as "ripe for picking."

"We regard it as one of the top 10 targets for an SDP gain and I think it is recognized as being the most notable example of a three party marginal in the country," Mr Oakeshott says. Mr Oakeshott, a former Labour parliamentary candidate who works as a pension fund investment manager, has found on the doorstep a reasonably "firm" Tory vote

but claims that Labour support is crumbling and he intends to concentrate on eroding it still further.

But after considerable disagreement last year between the Liberals and the SDP over who should fight the seat, Mr Oakeshott's cause has not been helped by a prominent local Liberal and CND national committee member recommending fellow Liberals to vote for Mrs Jones because of her commitment to unilateralism.

Richard Evans

CONSTITUENCY PROFILE Edinburgh C

Influx aids the Tories

CANDIDATES A Fletcher (C) D Carson (Com) R Kelley (Lab) R Halliday (SNP) Dr Marion McLeod (SDP All)

Edinburgh is already unique among the big British cities in returning more Conservative than Labour MPs to Parliament. Boundary changes have improved the Tories' prospects in this most redneck of constituencies even more by converting the city centre constituency from a safe Labour seat to a marginal that the Conservatives can reasonably expect to win.

The old Central Edinburgh seat, which was held until the dissolution by Robin Cook, the Tribune MP, with a 4,500 majority, was a small inner city constituency substantially made up of tenement housing in the area south of the Royal Mile.

The electorate has now been doubled with the inclusion of about 20,000 voters from the prosperous New Town area north of Princes Street, formerly in the old Edinburgh North constituency which disappears, and a further 4,000 voters from the largely Conservative area of Murrayfield, formerly part of Edinburgh West.

After unsuccessfully challenging the boundary commissioners' proposals, Mr Cook departed to the relatively safer

Profile of Edinburgh C

1981 % Own Occ	60
1981 % Loc Auth	46
1981 % Mid CI	55
1981 % Prof man	15
1982 BBC/ITN national result	57,400

General election: R F Cook (Lab) 14,500; D Carson (Com) 11,000; R Kelley (Lab) 10,000; R Halliday (SNP) 8,000; Dr Marion McLeod (SDP All) 7,000.

seat of Livingston, leaving Edinburgh Central to be fought for Labour by Richard Kelley, a community education worker and district councillor, aged 33.

Mr Kelley, a reserved, soft-spoken Englishman, describes himself as being on the left of the Labour Party, and will be fighting on local community issues.

Alex Fletcher, the Conservative candidate and until the

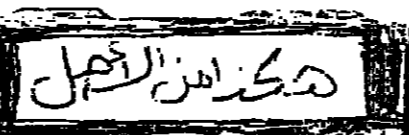
many of the jobs in Edinburgh and East Scotland are directly dependent on government defence projects.

It is an argument that his Scottish nationalist opponent, Mr Ron Halliday, an administrator at a further education college, aged 33, who is fighting his first general election, finds hard to refute, despite sharing his party's commitment to unilateralism. He is resigned to a poor showing in a city where the nationalists have never made the same impact as in other parts of Scotland.

The SDP-Alliance is fielding another newcomer to national politics, Dr Marion McLeod, a formidable, well-qualified biologist and bacteriologist who is researching for a doctorate in sociology at Edinburgh University.

She hopes that the fact that her husband's broken leg is due to come out of plaster on June 8 is an omen that she herself can break the mould of politics the following day. It seems unlikely, however. A more accurate omen for the result is probably the outcome of the regional council elections last year which gave the Tories 36.4 per cent of the vote, Labour 29.9 per cent, the Alliance 24.6 per cent and the SNP 7.6 per cent.

Ian Bradley



The Williamsburg summit

France to avoid clash with US

From Diana Geddes, Paris

France will not seek a confrontation with the United States at the Williamsburg summit, despite deep differences on monetary matters, but will go in a spirit of pragmatism and prudence, without illusions as to what the meeting is likely to achieve, M. Michel Vaurelle, the Elysee Palace spokesman, indicated at a press briefing.

He vehemently denied rumours suggesting that France might withdraw its support for the deployment of American missiles in Europe if it failed to obtain satisfaction from the Americans on stabilizing foreign exchange rates.

France had never attempted to establish "the beginnings of any form of blackmail between our concerns in relation to defence and security and our concerns regarding economic development".

However, that did not prevent France from repeating that "it seems paradoxical to ask a country to be a fir ally on the military front and not to take

into consideration the economic problems which that country might be undergoing", he added.

France is expecting disarmament and the balance of forces to constitute, with economic issues, the two big topics for discussion at the summit, which starts tomorrow. President Mitterrand is due to have bilateral talks with President Reagan just before the opening dinner.

M. Mitterrand's call for a new Bretton Woods monetary conference will be certain to feature prominently in their talks. Despite initial disparaging remarks by the Americans, France feels the latest comments by Mr Donald Regan, the Treasury Secretary, have been "very encouraging".

France is aware that there is no question of such a conference taking place immediately and that, in the words of one government source, the preparatory work "may take a very long time".

The reference to Bretton Woods did not mean France wanted a return to the old system of fixed parities, the source said. That would probably be impossible anyway. The President had referred to Bretton Woods because it had some meaning for the public.

As part of pre-summit consultations with party leaders, M. Mitterrand had talks yesterday with the former president, M. Valéry d'Estaing, who has recently made public his support for a Bretton Woods-type conference. It was the first time the two men had met since the exchange of power two years ago.

M. Giscard d'Estaing had refused three earlier invitations to the Elysee Palace, explaining that was not in attending "social events". But he had always expressed a readiness to talk with President Mitterrand on "matters that were useful for France".

The agreement to hold such a meeting is considered to have

been of mutual benefit for both men: it boosted M. Giscard d'Estaing's image as a statesman above party politics and it enabled M. Mitterrand to improve his image as a president of all French people, rather than just of the Socialists.

● BRUSSELS: The "fragile" recovery in the industrialized world must be strengthened by three key factors, Mr Gaston Thorn, President of the European Commission, said yesterday before leaving for Williamsburg, Ian Murray writes.

The factors were: a reduction in American interest rates; creation of monetary stability; and a method of easing the debt of the Third World. These were the points, he said, he would be emphasizing at the summit.

He was particularly concerned that high interest rates were especially crippling to Third World countries with heavy debts to service.

Low-key US line, page 21

\$454m released for Pershings

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Within hours of his MX missile victory, President Reagan has scored another significant win in the field of defence with the approval by the House of Representatives of \$454m (£287m) for the purchase of 91 Pershing 2 missiles.

Congress had been blocking the funds since last year because of problems during the testing of the missile. However in recent weeks Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, had lobbied hard in favour of this new intermediate-range missile, pointing out that recent tests had been completely successful.

The Administration was concerned that a continued refusal by Congress to approve the funds would have delayed plans to begin deploying the Pershing 2 in West Germany at the end of this year.

Altogether 108 Pershing 2s are scheduled to be based in West Germany as part of Nato's plans to deploy 572 new medium-range missiles in Western Europe in response to the build-up of triple-warhead SS20 missiles by the Soviet Union. The Pershings are particularly feared by the Soviet Union as they have the ability to reach

their targets in only eight minutes.

Meanwhile President Reagan, wailing his decisive MX victory in Congress, has again called on the Soviet Union to negotiate nuclear arms reductions with the United States.

Speaking after the Senate had voted by 59-39 to release \$625m for research and testing of the 10-warhead intercontinental ballistic missile, the President declared that the MX would not disrupt US-Soviet arms negotiations but would instead "carry us forward on the road to genuine arms reduction."

Canberra fury over atoll test

From Tony Dubouzin, Melbourne

Australia's relations with France reached a new low yesterday after the explosion of a French nuclear device on Mururoa atoll.

Mr Bill Hayden, the Foreign Minister yesterday called in M. Herve Ladoues, the French Charge d'Affaires in Canberra, and delivered a strong protest note.

Later Mr Hayden threatened to waver the Pacific nations into a militant pact against France as part of a strong diplomatic reaction to the French nuclear test.

"We can make life uncomfortable for the French. If they determined to test these damned things in the Atlantic, Mediterranean or inland France. Let them keep out of our backyard", he said.

The Foreign Minister remarked that the explosion of the device had put Franco-Australian relations "under very serious strain indeed".

He went on to claim that he was misled by the French Government over the future of the tests during his recent talks in Paris.

In other developments, Mr Hayden said that the issue of French tests would be raised at the next meeting of the South Pacific Forum in Canberra in August.

He also said that Australia would take up the issue of declaring the South-West Pacific a nuclear-free zone where the testing, storage or disposal of nuclear devices or waste would be banned while allowing the transit of nuclear-powered vessels carrying nuclear armaments.

Mr Hayden said that at his meeting with M. Cheysson, the French Foreign Minister, he had been assured that the French tests at Mururoa would be confined to the nuclear trigger devices used to detonate the primary explosion of a nuclear weapon. The French test of 70 kilo ton was not a trigger device, he said.

Polish girls back in the beautiful body business

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

The girls came in waves, as determined as Napoleonic infantry, tall and short, spotty and freckled, brazen and demure, all fighting for a chance to become the first Warsaw Pact candidate in 25 years to the Miss World contest in London. Nostrils flared, fingernails flashed and mascaraed eyes sparkled with the special competitive venom of such occasions.

Outside Warsaw's Buflo Theatre, life came to a standstill. Office workers perched dangerously on window-sills, cars containing women were immediately surrounded by Western and Polish cameramen and hundreds gathered near the stage door. "How are we going to overcome the crisis if nobody does any work," muttered one of the theatre's cleaning women, in the spirit of *Trybuna Ladz*, the Party newspaper.

Inside the theatre, the girls were hard at work. In groups of five, and wearing mini-skirts, they appeared on the stage and introduced themselves to the jury, headed by Warsaw's entertainment chief, Mr Wlodek Bleicki. There were almost a hundred girls taking part, most of whom were wheeled out before the end of the day during a second *haute-couture* round.

The winner becomes Miss Warsaw Region and has to take on competitors from another 10 regions in Poland to decide on whom should be sent to London as "Miss Polonia" in the autumn.

"What happens if you become Miss World?" I asked one young hopeful.

"There are no more dreams for the Poles," she replied, scuttling into the theatre. Most of the girls said they were doing it for "a bit of fun".

but seemed serious and anxious as if about to sit an examination, with insufficient revision.

Those who failed the first heat looked genuinely depressed: one, rejected because she was a professional striptease dancer, left in tears.

The competition is being organized by the state entertainment agency, *Estrela*, which comes under the control of the Ministry of Culture, run by a hardliner, Mr Kazimierz Zygalski.

The last Miss Polonia, according to the organizers, was in 1958. The Polish leadership subsequently decided that the contest demeaned socialism and the flowering of socialist maidenhood. According to a photographer who remembers those times, one of the beauty queens also defected to the West and this too may have weighed in the decision.

But it is the cynics in the official press who have the last word. A writer in the *Polityka* weekly handed out the appropriate bromides: "No, no, ladies and gentlemen, we won't make it with Miss Polonia - it would be much wiser to choose a Miss Crisis. The winner of the contest does not have to be beautiful at all - on the contrary, the uglier the better: let her breast resemble Poland's industrial overhang, let her eyes squint in the direction of the creditors... let her legs be as bony as the diagrams of our never-filled economic plans.

"Instead of a commonplace festival with Miss Polonia (what would she win anyway - a bottle of skampos? A bar of chocolate? A free subway ticket?), let us choose Miss Crisis and we may be sure that the event would not be passed over in silence."

Shultz plea for freer world trade

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, yesterday made a strong plea for new measures of international trade liberalization, with special attention to the problems of the developing nations.

In a speech prepared for delivery to the Foreign Policy Association in New York, Mr Shultz said preparations should begin now for a new effort of trade liberalization in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gat). There should be special, urgent emphasis on reducing barriers to North-South trade through mutual exchange of concessions.

"The reality of North and South is now that all of us are in one boat. We are all looking for a rising tide and calmer seas to speed us on our course", he observed.

The main theme of his speech was: "The United States and the developing world: Our joint stake in the world economy". Coming out strongly against trade protectionism, he said: "The recovery which is at hand in major industrial countries can lead the way to global recovery through a revival of world trade".

A summer stroll in Stockholm

From Michael Blayton, Cologne

The Queen, accompanied by Queen Silvia of Sweden, on a walkabout in the rain in the narrow streets of Stockholm's medieval Old Town yesterday.

The Queen spent the early part of the day visiting two museums in the Stockholm Royal Palace.

On a visit to the Manila School for the Deaf, Queen Silvia gave a demonstration of her newly-learned knowledge of sign language.

The Duke of Edinburgh visited an exhibition intended to help to sell British technology in Sweden, while on board the royal yacht *Britannia*, anchored near the palace, delegations of Swedish and British businessmen discussed joint industrial projects in the Third World.

The royal couple attended a sumptuous champagne luncheon given by the Stockholm municipality in the town hall and were rowed to its steps in the royal barge.

Then came one of the highlights of the four-day visit which ends tomorrow: a visit to the seventeenth century warship *Vasa*, raised from Stockholm harbour more than 200 years ago.

Walesa appeals for calm to protect papal visit

From Our Own Correspondent, Warsaw

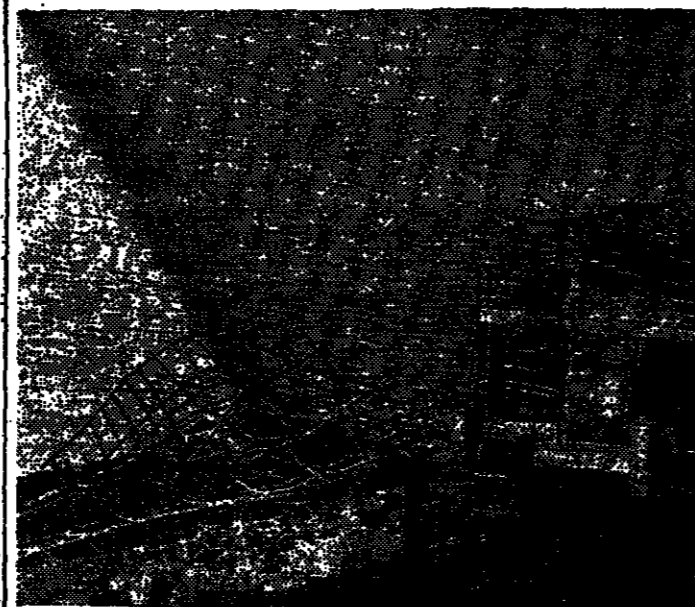
Mr Lech Walesa, who is due to be interrogated by the Polish authorities again today, has appealed for calm and restraint among Solidarity supporters so as not to jeopardize the Pope's visit to Poland next month.

The former Solidarity union leader gave his appeal to the Polish news agency PAP but as it was not published it was then distributed among Western reporters in Warsaw.

Mr Walesa said that there were still forces in Poland which wanted to prevent the papal visit. He urged workers, intellectuals, farmers, Solidarity activists to be patient and "preserve common sense, rea-

son, calm and restraint at the moment, but at the same time to preserve your resolution and determination". This appeal, he said, was intended to rob "those ill-willed people", of any excuse to cancel the visit.

Mr Walesa's message, drafted last week, comes at a time of considerable bitterness in Warsaw about the death of a young student shortly after leaving police custody. The death - family friends and Solidarity sympathizers claim that he died as the result of being beaten up in a police station - has mobilized many people who otherwise were losing interest in opposition to martial law.



Hopes fade for Nile victims

The twisted metal skeleton of the Kamadan 10, the ferry which was burnt out on Lake Nasser on the Upper Nile on Wednesday, and one of the barges it was towing.

Hopes of finding the 183 people still missing 36 hours after the fire were fading rapidly as the death toll rose to 119, Robert Holloway writes. Officials directing rescue operations from Aswan reported by telephone to Cairo that 72 bodies had been recovered from the lake in the morning,

adding to the 47 found on Wednesday. Most of the dead had been badly burned.

So far 325 survivors have been rescued, and military spotter aircraft and helicopters were scouring the shores of the lake in search of others who might have been swept away by currents.

Anyone who made it to the shore could not survive for long. The area is arid and uninhabited where daytime shade temperatures at this time of year exceed 100°F.

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Firing squad volunteer

Berlin (Reuters) - Heinz Barth, a former SS officer, on trial for war crimes and crimes against humanity, yesterday admitted volunteering for a firing squad which killed four civilians in Czechoslovakia in 1942.

Heinz Barth, who is 62, said he volunteered because he feared his career as a police reservist would be jeopardized.

He is charged with involvement in 92 killings in Czechoslovakia and in the massacre of 642 villagers at Opatowitz-Ghose in France in 1944.

The four killings at Klatovy in Bohemia were the first to come up during testimony by an expert witness from the Czechoslovak government commission on war criminals. Bohemia and Moravia were made into a German protectorate after the Nazi invasion of Czechoslovakia.



Iran rejects Iraqi peace offer

Tehran, (AFP, Reuters) - Mr Ali Akbar Velayati, Iran's Foreign Minister, yesterday spurned an Iraqi proposal to sign a "special peace agreement" under UN auspices, calling the plan a direct admission by Baghdad that it had struck civilian targets.

Iran reported that Iraqi aircraft raided Basra, a town in the north-west on Wednesday, killing eight people and injuring 73, and had also launched a new strike against Iranian oil installations in the Gulf.

● OSLO: Mr Nic Fougner, Norway's Ambassador in Tehran, was fired off by unknown men just after leaving a road block last Friday night, the Foreign Ministry said here. Reuters reports.

19 join Kim on hunger strike

Seoul (Reuters) - Nineteen opposition politicians joined former opposition leader Kim Young-Sam in hunger strike to press for the return of democracy in South Korea.

Police took Mr Kim, aged 55, to a Seoul hospital by force on Wednesday seven days after he started a hunger strike. His aides said he was refusing food or medical treatment. Mr Kim, banned from national politics since May 1980, was placed under house arrest in June.

Spies jailed

Munich (AP) - Sentencing a West German Army sergeant and his wife to prison for selling decoding lists to Soviet agents in East Germany, the judge said they had enabled communist spy networks to eavesdrop on military communications throughout southern West Germany. Horst Marmecq, aged 41, was jailed for six and a half years and his wife Renate, aged 45, for two years.

Three expelled

Moscow (Reuters) - Iran's ambassador to Moscow confirmed that the Soviet Union had expelled three Iranian diplomats, apparently in retaliation for Iran's expulsion of 18 Soviet Embassy workers earlier this month for their links with the banned Tudeh (communist) party.

Greeks angry

Athens (Reuters) - Greece protested to the US over violations of its airspace by five American aircraft on Wednesday during a Nato exercise, saying this would not help to solve their problems. Talks on the future of US military bases resumed here last Monday.

Long wait

Chur (AP) - Forty seven Swiss climbers stranded in huts throughout the mountains of the Graubunden canton since last weekend's Whitesnide weather onslaught must wait until this weekend before helicopter rescue attempts start because of continued snow and rain.

Coffee scandal

Rome - All members of the Superior Council of the Judiciary, the highest disciplinary body in the Italian legal world, have been summoned to answer charges of misuse of public funds. The charges concern modest sums spent on about two cups of coffee a day for the 30 councillors.

Farm deadlock

Brussels - Two days of talks by EEC agriculture ministers aimed at trying to find a way of recognizing the structures for reorganizing the structure of agricultural production came to almost nothing here. The ministers have been struggling with the problem for 18 months.

Magazine held

Nairobi (AP) - Copies of the US magazine *Newsweek*, held by the authorities at the airport since Wednesday, were released after 24 hours, carrying an article on Kenyan politics describing a "farical witch hunt" by President Daniel Moi.

Hashish haul

Antwerp (AP) - Police and Customs men seized 14,300lb of hashish hidden in two containers in the port of Antwerp, and arrested three people. It was the largest drug seizure in Belgium with a street value of \$13m.

Strauss derides Kohl's charge of bickering

From Michael Blayton, Cologne

Herr Franz Josef Strauss, the Prime Minister of Bavaria, yesterday tried to play down the public reproach made to him by Chancellor Helmut Kohl, and insisted too much was being made of imaginary differences between his Christian Social Union (CSU) and the Christian Democrats (CDU).

Addressing a packed hall where the CSU was holding its annual congress, Herr Strauss provoked loud laughter and applause with his sharp-witted retort to Dr Kohl's reminder on Wednesday that the seat of government was in Bonn.

"Hearty greetings," he began, using the southern German phrase *Gruß Gott*, "from the secret capital of Germany".

He went on vigorously to rebut allegations of disrupting the coalition and of seeking to build up his power and presence by engaging in phony quarrels. He reminded the CDU that Chancellor Kohl himself had proposed regular meetings between the coalition party leaders, and said a distinction had to be made between genuine differences and imaginary quarrels, the world of "secret power struggles and hidden threats".

The controversial Bavarian leader is widely seen as the real target of Dr Kohl's attack on bickering and squabbling in the coalition. Commentators have made much of the unexpected decision by the CDU executive to change its ground rules so that it could, if it wished, put up candidates in Bavaria, where the CSU at present has a monopoly on the right.

The party said this was only a formality in preparation for the elections to the European Parliament. But the timing and nature of the change is seen as a clear challenge to Herr Strauss. The initiative for the change came from Dr Kohl.

Herr Strauss' forthright speech was a high point in an otherwise dull conference. He praised the federal system in Germany which, he said, gave considerable independence to the provincial governments. He also expressed agreement with most government policy.

He did not comment on the brief but important remarks Dr Kohl made yesterday about German rejection of higher EEC spending. These are of considerable importance to the EEC and especially to Britain.

Namibia pact on brink

From Zoriana Pysariwsky, New York

Ms Jeanne Kirkpatrick, the American representative at the UN, told the Security Council that an accord to bring Namibia to independence was within reach but that all could be lost if the violent turn of events that marked the weekend in southern Africa persisted.

The United States deplored acts of violence from wherever they came, whether perpetrated in the name of change or in opposition to it, she said. She called the actions in Pretoria and Maputo a bloody reminder

of "the real potential that today exists throughout southern Africa for the further escalation of that violence".

Her remarks in the Security Council debate on Namibia came at a time when the United States is attempting to step up its diplomatic role in southern Africa by encouraging a rapprochement between South Africa and Mozambique and add new life to the interminable negotiations on Namibia which have floundered over Cuban withdrawal from Angola.

Officers 'told to help destroy jets'

From Stephen Taylor, Harare

The prosecution in the trial of six Zimbabwe Air Force officers yesterday introduced as evidence signed statements in which they admitted assisting in the Thornhill Air Force base sabotage operation.

The officers' statements said they had become involved after threats that their families would be harmed if they refused.

At the start of the trial on Monday evidence for the defence served notice that the statements would be strongly challenged on the ground that they had been extracted after threats.

Air Vice-Marshal Hugh Slater, Air Commodore Philip Pike, Wing Commander Peter Buzweye, Wing Commander John Cox, Air Lieutenant Birmingham Lloyd and Air Lieutenant Neville Witt have all denied

helping South African saboteurs to penetrate security at Thornhill and destroy or damage 13 aircraft.

The statements presented to Mr Justice Dumbutshena describe approaches allegedly made to the first three accused by Air Vice-Marshal Slater's predecessor as chief of staff.

Before leaving Zimbabwe for South Africa after his retirement, Air Vice-Marshal Pike was said to have told the three officers that a plan to destroy the Zimbabwe Air Force had been set in motion in South Africa and that unless they cooperated their lives and those of their families would be in peril.

In his statement Air Vice-Marshal Slater said that he had

been given a list of officers' names who would assist in running down security at Thornhill. After a meeting last June with a "Mr Swanepoel" who had identified himself by a pre-arranged code word, "boss", he learnt that Thornhill would be hit after the arrival of four new Hawk fighter-trainer aircraft from Britain.

The chief of staff's statement said that he had mixed feelings after the operation "because I knew the loss of the aircraft was a loss to the country but at least the lives of the various families should be safe".

In his statement Air Commodore Witt said he had been involved with Air Lieutenant Lloyd in getting three men he believed were former Rhodesians into the base.

American deputy military chief assassinated by gunmen in El Salvador

San Salvador (NYT, AP) - The deputy commander of the US military group in El Salvador has been shot and killed here.

Commander Albert Schaufelberger, of the US Navy, was shot four times in the head as he stood outside the University of Central America on Wednesday, according to Colonel John Cash, the Defence Attaché. "All I know is that his body is in the hospital and that he was shot in the head", Colonel Cash said.

Mr Donald Hamilton, Public Affairs Officer of the US Embassy, said Commander Schaufelberger was shot when he went to the university to pick up a friend. He drove up and blew his horn and another car drove up alongside and fired four shots.

In addition to his duties as deputy commander, Commander Schaufelberger was the head of the naval section of the military group and head of security.

Mr Hamilton said Commander Schaufelberger was 32 or 33 years old, from San Diego and a graduate of the US Naval Academy at Annapolis. At the time of the shooting he was not protected by a bodyguard and was dressed in civilian clothes. He had received no death threats and it was not clear who

was in the car that drove up beside his car.

Commander Schaufelberger, who had been in El Salvador since August, was assigned to advise the Salvadorean naval commander and spent his time either in La Unión or at the embassy.

President Alvaro Magana has promised a full investigation, Mr Hamilton said.

In Washington, a White House spokesman said Mr William Clark, the National Security Adviser, had informed Commander Schaufelberger's death. "We deeply regret this matter, and it is under investigation", the White House Press Office said.

Elsewhere in El Salvador, a large rebel force dynamited a key bridge on the Pan-American highway, killed 44 soldiers guarding it and blocked out the eastern part of the country by blowing up power lines, a military commander said.

Colonel Dionisio Hernandez said on Wednesday that 2,000 left-wing guerrillas overran the post guarding the Quebrada Seca bridge 47 miles east of the capital, cutting off 40 per cent of the country. The highway is the main route through El Salvador. They dynamited power pylons

nearby after they seized the bridge, blocking out the area to the east. The sabotage left 1.6 million people without electricity.

MANAGUA: The Nicaraguan Government said two West German journalists and a doctor were missing after rebels attacked and sank the boat they were travelling in along a river on the Nicaraguan-Costa Rican border, AP reports.

The Foreign Ministry identified the journalists as Walter Shultz and Valentin Shwarz and the doctor as Mariana Siss.

A Ministry communiqué said rebels attacked the boat on Wednesday morning with mortars, grenades and rifle fire as it travelled the San Juan river at a point 135 miles south of Managua.

TEGUCIGALPA: About 5,000 government troops have launched a general offensive in Nicaragua's northern Nueva Segovia province to try to oust rebel forces from entrenched positions, insurgent leaders said in the Honduran capital yesterday, Reuter reports.

The Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) said in a communiqué issued here that the offensive began last Saturday in seven different areas in Nueva Segovia and heavy fighting was still going on.

Peace camp women plan second visit to Moscow

From Richard Owen Moscow

The three Greenham Common women who have been in Russia for a week say they intend to return in September with a much larger group despite the rumpus caused by their insistence on helping unofficial Soviet peace activists.

Ms Ann Pettit and Mrs Karman Cutler, both from Dyfed in Wales, were the organisers of the women's march from Cardiff which set up the Greenham Common peace camp in 1981. They are accompanied by Miss Jean McCollister, an American student from Somerville College, Oxford.

An unannounced row broke out during the group's final meeting with the official Soviet peace committee when the Greenham Common delegation brought with them Mrs Olga Medvedkov, wife of Mr Yuri Medvedkov, one of the leaders of the banned group for the establishment of trust between the Soviet Union and the US. Mr Oleg Khakhardin, vice-chairman of the committee, reacted angrily, describing the women's action as provocation and an unfriendly act.

As Mrs Medvedkov tried to speak there was consternation among Soviet officials. "Is this how you behave in your own country?" Mr Khakhardin demanded. The Greenham Common group said that it was and insisted that Mrs Medvedkov had a right to be heard "as a woman and a peace campaigner".

Mrs Medvedkov spoke briefly, and then left voluntarily.

Later in Red Square the group approached Russian women and asked them to sign a home-made poster with the slogan "women for Life on Earth" and "Natasia's toast". A plea for peaceful contacts between peoples written by a



Sign of the times: A Russian woman adds her name to a peace poster presented by Greenham Common protesters in front of the Kremlin.

Russian friend. A policeman tried to stop them but retreated when it became clear they were foreigners.

Ms Pettit said the group had been encouraged by the response of ordinary Russians in Leningrad and Moscow. "All of them said they wanted to build up trust between East and West through contacts - which ironically is what the unofficial activists also want."

The group said there had been a dialogue with the official peace committee, and with the official women's peace groups in Leningrad and Moscow. After the furore over Mrs Medvedkov in Moscow,

Soviet officials had amicably discussed the prospects for a full scale Greenham Common visit in September.

The Greenham Common group, who clearly found the young and informal unofficial activists more congenial than officials, said they had nonetheless made a useful beginning on a vital dialogue. It was regrettable that some independent peace activists now faced possible arrest or job dismissal.

At one encounter with independent activists in one of Moscow's less salubrious working class districts, the Greenham group passed round

photographs of the peace camp, and explained that the Greenham Common movement had arisen spontaneously.

"We are just ordinary women, no one told us what to do", Mrs Cutler said. The Russian activists nodded wistfully at the thought that somewhere peace marches were not stage-managed.

The women's group said their activities, including an unofficial peace picnic on International Women's Day for Disarmament last Tuesday, had been carefully monitored by the KGB.

The three campaigners arrive back in Britain today

Spain's new abortion law to be challenged

From Richard Wigg Madrid

The Spanish Parliament has approved a Bill put forward by the Socialist Government which makes abortion no longer a crime in certain circumstances. But the Opposition announced after the vote on Wednesday night that it would appeal to the Constitutional Court immediately the measure becomes law in about two months.

More than 150 women have challenged the courts in the Basque region to put them on trial after publicly admitting they had had abortions. The Bilbao public prosecutor yesterday recommended that their challenge be taken up.

The women all belong to Basque feminist groups and some of their husbands have demanded that they should be charged too for helping to procure the clandestine operations.

The Bill, which now goes to committee for detailed approval before passing to the Senate, where the Socialists also have a majority, allows abortion in three cases: When the mother's life or health is considered by doctors to be in grave danger; when the pregnancy is the result of rape, provided the operation is performed in the first 12 weeks; and when two doctors judge it is probable the child would be born with grave physical or mental defects, provided abortion takes place within 22 weeks.

The Bill was opposed by 184 votes to 109. No woman MP spoke during the debate.

Answering feminist groups' criticism that the Bill will only free women from the threat of jail sentences in 10 per cent of abortions, and ignores economic measures on women to have abortions, the Socialist spokesman told Parliament that the duty of the Government was to legislate for the whole country, not vanguard groups.

ANKARA: Turkey, whose population is approaching 50 million, legalized abortion yesterday in an unusual step for an Islamic country, Rasit Gurdilek writes.

The law, ratified by the ruling National Security Council, allows abortions until the tenth week of pregnancy. After the tenth week abortion remains illegal unless essential for medical reasons, with jail terms of up to 20 years for offenders. Sterilization of both men and women is also to be permitted as a means of birth control.

The Turkish Government hopes that the measure, aided by cheap operations at state hospitals, will help to reduce the rate of population increase, currently running at 2.5 per cent. It also wants to reduce radically the number of deaths caused by illegal abortions performed by untrained abortionists under shocking conditions, which reach several thousand every year.

Soviet dissidents 'near the end'

From Our Own Correspondent, Moscow

Dissidents said yesterday that the departure of Mr Georgiy Vladimov, the writer, for West Germany signalled the beginning of the end for the dissident movement in Russia.

Mr Vladimov, aged 53, was the last important dissident author not to have been expelled, imprisoned, exiled or silenced through KGB pressure. In January this year he wrote to Mr Yuri Andropov, the Soviet leader, saying that he could no longer tolerate harassment by the KGB and asking to be allowed to emigrate. Mr Vladimov's case was taken up by Western leaders, and earlier this month he was granted an exit visa.

Mr Vladimov was seen off at Moscow airport by friends and well-wishers, including Mr Roy Medvedev, the dissident Marxist historian. Mr Vladimov is to teach Russian literature at Cologne university, and has also been invited to visit

Britain, France, Canada and the United States.

He was accompanied by his wife Natasha and his mother-in-law. Mr Vladimov's mother, who lives in Leningrad, is aged 81 and too ill to travel.

Mr Vladimov hopes to return to the Soviet Union, but has said that it is not unusual for dissidents to be stripped of their Soviet nationality once they are abroad.

Mr Vladimov fell foul of the KGB in 1977 when he became the head of the Moscow branch of Amnesty International. He is best known in the West as the author of *Faithful Russian*, a novella which tells the allegorical story of a labour camp dog unable to adapt to Khrushchev's partial dismantling of the GULAG system.

Mr Vladimov paid a farewell visit to Mrs Yelena Bonner, wife of Dr Andrei Sakharov, the dissident physicist, who was exiled to Gorky in 1980.

Cuba asked to take back refugees

From Mohsin Ali Washington

The Reagan Administration has formally asked Cuba to take back hundreds of the 125,000 Cubans who flooded into the United States during the boatlift from Port Mariel in 1980.

Mr Thomas Enders, Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs, made the request to Señor Ramon Sanchez-Farodi, head of Cuba's interests section here on Tuesday, the State Department announced.

It said a few thousand of the Mariel refugees were detained by the authorities because of serious criminal conduct in Cuba and many had remained in detention in the United States. Others had been convicted of crimes in the US and were serving prison sentences. Some were ineligible to remain for "other substantive reasons."

Centre-right takes power in Iceland

Reykjavik (Reuter) - A centre-right coalition Government is taking over in Iceland after late-night bargaining on Wednesday ended a month-long political stalemate.

Just before agreement on the two-party coalition was announced, word leaked out of a likely 18 per cent devaluation.

The new Prime Minister will be Mr Steingrimur Hermannsson, who is 54. His centrist Progressive Party will link up with the right-wing Independence Party. The country has been under caretaker rule since the election on April 23.

When the two-party agreement was reached during the night, President Vigdis Finnbogadóttir called Mr Hermannsson to her residence at midnight and charged him with forming a government.

The new Government's first job will be to undertake what political sources called "very harsh economic measures" to fight inflation which threaten to reach a yearly rate of between 120 and 150 per cent.

Earlier on Wednesday, the Social Democrats declined to join the coalition after they had seen the programme, which they said was so harsh that it will turn common families in Iceland bankrupt.

The two coalition parties hold a secure majority of 37 of the 60 seats in the Althing Parliament.

But, as neither the Social Democrats nor the Communists support it, political sources feared that the trade unions might put up a stiff opposition to the planned economic measures.



Steingrimur Hermannsson: Midnight summons

Civil Guard mutiny in Peru ends

Lima (Reuter) - Peruvian paramilitary guards ended a 30-hour rebellion over pay yesterday and accepted a government wage offer, a spokesman for the mutineers said.

The government had decreed a three-day state of emergency on Wednesday after 1,000 heavily armed Civil Guards seized their barracks, a few blocks from the palace of President Fernando Belaunde Terry.

Army tank patrols were out in Lima and the neighbouring port of Callao during the night and civil liberties were suspended under the state of emergency.

Russians strike at US Embassy

The building site of the new US Embassy in Moscow (right) where more than 300 Soviet workers have downed tools and walked out. An embassy spokesman said yesterday that the workers, helping to build a new eight-storey complex behind the present cramped embassy building, had left the site on Monday in a "dispute over terms of contract", Reuter and AP reports.

According to US supervisors at the site, the workers protested that X-ray equipment used to examine girders for structural faults was a health hazard.



Work began on the complex in 1979 and it was due to be finished by the end of this year. After a series of hold-ups, blamed by supervisors on difficulties with Soviet staff, it is now scheduled for completion in 1985.

Mongolia ousts Chinese

Peking (Reuter) - Thousands of Chinese are being expelled from Mongolia after being given an ultimatum to move into remote areas of the Gobi Desert or leave the country, Western travellers said yesterday.

The travellers, who arrived in Peking recently after taking the Trans-Siberian express train from Moscow through Mongolia, said more than 100 Chinese boarded the train in the Mongolian capital of Ulan Bator. They quoted the Chinese as saying 8,000 people were

affected by the ultimatum delivered in March and they would all have left by August.

Relations between China and Mongolia have been tense since the Sino-Soviet split more than 20 years ago. Mongolia is closely allied with the Soviet Union which has thousands of troops and advisers there.

Some diplomats suggested that Mongolia, for centuries a buffer state between Russia and China, might feel threatened by the slight thaw in Sino-Soviet relations.

González to decide on warplanes

Spain's long-drawn-out decision on choosing a new, advanced combat aircraft built by the United States or by its European rivals has now been left personally to Señor Felipe González, the Prime Minister.

He will pronounce on the so-called "contract of the century" before next Tuesday, a government spokesman indicated on Wednesday night.

McDonnell Douglas, the American manufacturer of the

F18A fighter bomber, the favourite of the Spanish Air Force has set a final decision date of May 31.

The Cabinet decided to persist with its bargaining tactics until the last moment to play McDonnell Douglas off against Panavia, the British-Italian and West German consortium which makes the rival Tornado.

Señor Narciso Serra, the Defence Minister, has been

instructed to seek to wring further concessions out of the Americans despite their resistance. Señor Miguel Boyer, the Economic Minister, now on a visit to the United States, may also join in.

The Spanish Air Force is reported to be dismayed by the Government's second delay in deciding in a fortnight. It is now worried that the order of 84 aircraft envisaged may be scaled down.

General strike in Italy as poll campaign opens

From Peter Nichols, Rome

With the Italian election campaign barely a day old, the politicians must take second place to the general strike involving more than 14 million workers.

The protest against the failure to reach agreement on new collective contracts for engineering workers and others is the biggest for years and without precedent on such a scale during a general election. All industry is due to close for four hours and other sections of the economy for two, including trains and aircraft. Schools will open an hour late and cinemas will cancel the first performance.

Union leaders will address workers' meetings throughout the country. In Rome the rally will take place close to the headquarters of the Confederation of Industry, an indication that labour relations are bad at a time when the confederation itself has been unusually vigor-

ous. Polling days are June 26 and 27. About 7,000 candidates have entered the lists for the Chamber of Deputies, 2,000 for the Senate and about another 100,000 in two regional elections and local government contests. The principal interest is whether the Socialist Party, which forced the dissolution of Parliament, will strengthen its position.

The leaders of the two biggest parties - the Christian Democrats and the Communists - both look to the Socialists as potential allies. Signor Bettino Craxi, the Socialist leader, has said however that the alternative he sees is between an alliance with the Christian Democrats and opposition.

He rejects the idea of a possible alliance between Communists and Socialists. In fact, a lot divides the two leftwing parties, including the stationing of cruise missiles at Comiso in Sicily.

Medina burial for Idris

From Our Correspondent, Cairo

The body of the former King Idris of Libya, who died in Cairo in exile on Wednesday at the age of 93, was flown to Saudi Arabia yesterday for burial in the holy city of Medina.

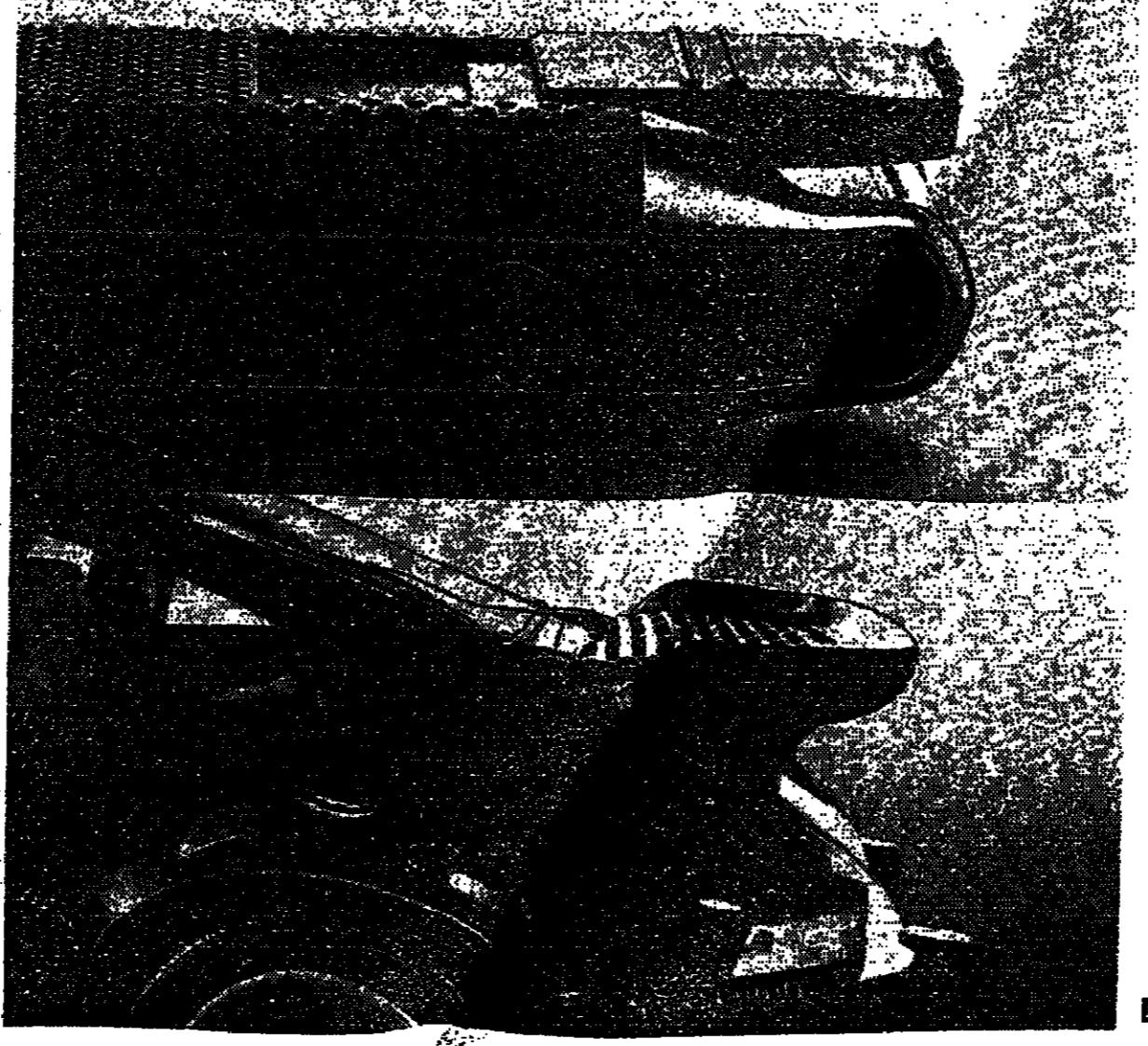
King Idris, a leading opponent of Italian colonialism, ruled Libya from December, 1951, until he was deposed in September, 1969, by a group of army officers led by Colonel

Gaddafi. He sought asylum in Egypt and five years later, after relations soured between Colonel Gaddafi and President Sadat, was granted Egyptian nationality.

A spokesman for the Libyan National Liberation Front here said that the former King's death would have no "negative impact" upon the front's activities.

Obituary, page 14

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THE ARTS

Cinema

Witty exposé of a bourgeois intelligentsia

The Ploughman's Lunch (15) Gate Notting Hill

That Championship Season (15) Classic Haymarket

Sting II (PG) Plaza

Starflight One (U) Classic Haymarket

Napoleon Barbican

Not many distinguished stage or television directors have made the transition to film easily and naturally, but Richard Eyre is one of the exceptions.

The film is about the moral reality of Britain here and now, and this is a subject which very few films, outside the work of Lindsay Anderson, have risked.

The hero, James Penfield (Jonathan Pryce), works at the very heart of Britain - in the newsroom at Broadcasting House. He is a model of social mobility, a scholarship boy who made it from a humble working-class semi in the suburbs to a place on the perimeter of the inner circles of politics.

Even though the world is different and his ambitions are more complex, he is the Joe Lampton of 25 years on, and it is significant that as a political historian he is fascinated by the social and moral traumas which produced the Joe Lamptons and Jimmy Porters.



Realization of failure: Jonathan Pryce in conference in The Ploughman's Lunch

He is working on a book about the Suez crisis, and has a certain sympathy for the Eden side of things. The statutory political balance of broadcasting fosters political ambiguity and expedience in broadcasting people.

James's historical researches and his sexual pursuit of Susan opportunistically coincide. Susan's mother is a somewhat disillusioned veteran of the Suez generation now living in rural chic in Norfolk, with a cynical but successful director of television commercials. James beats a hasty retreat however from involvement in the couple's extra-marital accommodations. For that matter he retreats from any first-hand human involvement.

Intrigued though he is by the idea of radical commitments in the time of Suez, he experiences only awful embarrassment from an encounter with a Peace Women's organization.

His book wins the approval of his modish publisher. Even so, James will continue to embody the principle that, if there is anything less likable than a successful opportunist, it is an unsuccessful one. The full significance of his failure both as human being and careerist hits him as he is attending the 1982 Conservative Party Conference in Brighton. Jeremy, his best friend, has achieved a walk-over with Susan; and Margaret Thatcher is

making her Falklands victory pronouncements: "We have told the people the truth". Her declaration of faith in the youth of Britain provides an ironic epilogue to the portrait of James.

It is a cruel and witty exposé of the manners, morals and neuroses of a bourgeois intelligentsia terrified of human commitment. On the side it offers some quite profound reflections on the lessons and the burdens of history. The dialogue is dense and demands fairly hard attention. But attention is repaid, and the film is saved from falling into schematicism by the comic vitality of the world that Eyre creates through his actors. Jonathan Pryce and Tim Curry offer contrasts in go-getting: Curry is the smarter one because he does not let it show. Charlie Dore makes Susan odious from her first entrance, knocking the tray out of a waiter's hands without so much as a glance to see the damage. Her attraction for James would be less comprehensible if it were not for the consistency with which he discards anyone with a hint of human sentiment - the Peace Women, Susan's mother (Rosemary Harris) and his own father (a role marvelously established by Nat Jackley, a veteran of 60 years' experience in variety).

The most mischievous coup of this wry portrait of Britain after the Belgrano, though, is to have infiltrated the Conservative Party Conference and recruited an unknown Thatcher as actress and dialogue writer. Here the decors were the gift of Central Office, for the rest the contribution of Luciana Arrighi's production design contributes notably to Eyre's images of contemporary England: the drab rooms where power sits in the BBC, the contrasted homes of James's friends and James's parents, shines in their different ways to ineradicable class distinction; the recreated rustic past in which the refugees from the Suez era are cocooned. All that these places share is the incontinent flow of undifferentiated and unheeded information that gushes from the radio and television.

For several minutes That Championship Season raises expectations of a satire on small-town Middle America, with brisk scenes of an election campaign and some funny business with Bruce Dern, as mayoral candidate, and a mortally sick elephant with which he unwisely tries to win popularity and votes. Then however the director-writer, Jason Miller, embarks on a reverential and static presentation of his own stage play, which leaves one wondering why it was such a success on Broadway and won a Pulitzer Prize. The story of the reunion of members of a long-ago high-school basketball team, and the

bohemian that soon deteriorates into recrimination and guilt, offers nothing new, and what it does offer is, despite the cast (Robert Mitchum, Stacy Keach, Martin Sheen), unappetisingly sour.

There is no essential reason why a sequel should not be better than the original, but it never seems to happen. Certainly, although it has the same writer and goes through the same motions, Sting II remains none of the old charm or fun. It is not only that Mac Davis and an appoplectic Jackie Gleason have none of the attraction of the original co-artists, Redford and Newman: Jeremy Paul Kagan, ordinarily a resourceful director, plots, painfully through, the mires of plot.

One of the idiosyncrasies of Hollywood is interminably to imitate any once-successful formula long after it has passed out of style. It seems inconceivable that anyone would redo the old aircraft disaster movie after Airplane and its sequel has already clubbed it to death with parody, yet here it is again in Starflight. One directed by Jerry Jameson and with a perfectly respectable cast, including Lee Majors, Ray Milland and Robert Webber. It is at least as silly as Airplane II but only intermittently and unintentionally as funny.

Tomorrow and on Monday there are performances of Napoleon, with full orchestra, at the Barbican, which are essential viewing for all aficionados of the film. Since the last screenings Kevin Brownlow has rediscovered enough material to add 23 minutes to the running time, and to replace some sections of inferior image quality. The new scenes - the most important concern the fortunes of Napoleon's family in Corsica after his own return to France - bring the running time to five and a quarter hours, and have involved supplementary episodes in Carl Davis's score.

Remarkably this version is more than an hour and a half longer than that screened at the 1977 premiere at the Paris Opéra (to suit the impatience of a fashionable audience, Abel Gance was obliged to cut his final version from six hours and 20 minutes to three hours and 40 minutes). Gance, incidentally, spent less than three years making Napoleon. Kevin Brownlow has spent almost 30 in restoring it.

At tomorrow's show there will be personal appearances by some of the film's stars - Annabella, who as a teenage debutante played Violine, Harry-Krimer, Gance's Rouge de Lisle and Robert Vidalia, his Camille Desmoulins. Harry-Krimer, at 86, still drives his own MG, and has just played, appropriately enough, in Weida's new film of Danton. Some seats are still available for both performances.

David Robinson

Douglas Jeffrey

Television

Hard to forget

The decision to screen Walter on its first night last November may have been one way in which Channel 4 signalled its determination to be different, but it may well have contributed to the apprehension that greeted its debut in some quarters. The harrowing story of the mentally handicapped Walter was strong meat, though notable, among other things, for Ian McKellen's brilliant performance. Last night Channel 4 returned with David Cook's sequel, Walter and June. Walter is now 40, with 19 years in the mental hospital (where he is one of the brighter and more helpful patients) behind him and little else before.

He meets June, an attractive but mentally unstable young woman (Sarah Miles), whose problems have been aggravated by having a child by a married man. June, desperate to escape, befriends Walter and persuades him to help her do so. They flee first to what appeared to be a church, where she seduces him, and then to a London squat where they live together.

There June meets an economics student, obviously down on his economics, and an affair begins. She leaves the bewildered Walter and returns, apparently stricken by conscience and his dependence.

only to fall through the floor and die of her injuries. Walter returns from the doss-house, where he has taken refuge, to find her. The student, under the mistaken impression that it is for him, reads Walter the message she has scrawled on the pipes.

Ian McKellen's performance was again brilliant and was complemented by that of Sarah Miles. It was only the credibility of the story that nagged. June was drawn as an educated woman, highly articulate with an acid turn of wit that might evoke envy in affluent parts of Islington. Though Walter is an affectionate, kindly soul - "like taking a small animal to the vet to be put down" - says June as she leaves him - their love affair seemed far-fetched.

For all that, the performances, Stephen Frears's direction and Chris Menges's photography pulled it through. Walter is a character who will linger in the mind. Those viewers who have had the stamina to run the course will have had not only their sympathy for the mentally handicapped stirred, but their understanding, which comes much harder. That is some achievement for Mr Cook and Channel 4.

Dennis Hackett

Concert

Anonymous notes

Philharmonia/Rattle Festival Hall

It must have been with a sense of some moment that Beethoven watched the century turn and inscribed "Concerto 1800 Da L.v. Beethoven" on the autograph of his C minor Piano Concerto. It was precisely the lack of any such sense of occasion that diminished Misha Dichter's peremptory, strangely anonymous account of the work on Wednesday.

It was as if we were still being asked to glance over the sketches for the work rather than being invited to admire the total achievement. The details were there, often quite adroitly revealed as if by a hard, white light, and the Philharmonia under Simon Rattle were sensitive to the scale, usually rather small, of each new discovery.

The first movement got by, just about, with this approach, though the post-cadential crescendo were nervously piled up, lacking very much sense of organic growth. It was this inability to weld the parts into a resonant whole that short-changed the second movement despite its purely pianistic dexterity. And the sick finale seemed merely to flick the notes from score to keyboard and off into the air with strange, fitful emphases in the orchestral accompaniment, as if trying to compensate for the blandness of the solo part.

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Hilary Finch

Dance

Maria Maria Bloomsbury Theatre

Grupo Corpo is a company of a dozen very able and attractive dancers from Belo Horizonte, Brazil, who have toured previously in Europe but are in Britain for the first time. Their double bill at the Bloomsbury Theatre this week and next deserves larger audiences than it enjoyed on Wednesday.

The main work, Maria Maria, is based on a book of the same title by Fernando Brandt, telling the story of two women born into slavery in the same small town. One died at 24, the other lived to be 84. Both were called Maria and the joint image the author creates from the courage and wisdom handed down from one generation to the next. So much the programme tells us, without it the origin of the piece would be hidden but its point would still be crystal clear.

The credit for that belongs equally to Milton Nascimento's score and Oscar Araiz's choreography. Both are lively and expressive, drawing on a variety of sources in everyday life and folk tradition. Scrubbing floors or washing clothes turn into dances; Catholic saints and African gods merge in a jolly ceremony.

All the women in the group by turns represent an aspect of

Alice in Wonderland, the first major new production by Northern Ballet Theatre since September 1981, receives its premiere at the Palace Theatre, Manchester, on May 31. The choreography of this two-act ballet is by Rosemary Hellivell; the music, by Joseph Horowitz, is a reworking for NBT of a score used by Festival Ballet in 1953.

Richard Strauss's Arabella will be given for the first time at Glyndebourne in the 1984 festival, in a production sponsored by John Player & Sons. The new production will be recorded by BBC television.

The freelance producer/director James Cellan Jones has been elected chairman of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts.

Gaia Servadio

Salutary shocks

The Comedy Without a Title Lyric, Hammersmith

Adapted from plays and sketches by Ruzante of Padua (c.1502-1542), this is a curious evening which makes heavy demands on an audience's patience. Ruzante explains reviving interest in France and Italy in this Galileo's favourite playwright. His scenes from peasant life have a country wit's unpredictable flavour, sometimes dangerously fizzy - not travelling or settling easily in a stranger's stomach, but genuine and a salutary shock to jaded palates.

With starvation threatening, death is never far away in these comedies. Survival or any pleasure (particularly getting or being on to a wife), depends on ruthlessness, looking after number one and doing your friends down if necessary.

After dull opening scenes unremitting in their lavatory humour, the first play turns without warning into a tragicomic tale of the shy suitor whose friend plots to ease with the girl only to secure a turn in the bed. Discovering this, suitor kills friend; whereupon friend's widow appears for a pathetic lament over the man who was just about to deceive her, then remarries with the first man who asks her.

These unerving shifts of mood are rewarding and Mike Alfreds's production for Shared Experiences encompasses them well. But the broad humour played straight out front, is disconcerting without being funny and the bare stage's cavernous blackness does not help. The translation is very uneasy, rightly preserving the original's linguistic flights ("O mother of pearl and silver and gold") but often stilted in lighter exchanges. It partly explains the acting style's uncertain admixture of conscious Italian-ness, theatrical gestures and cries of "eh" in suitable variety.

Characterizations are rich, however. James Smith bravely tries to hold the house as the soliloquizing Ruzante, returning scabby and footsore from the wars to find his woman gone. John Price switches in an instant from a thug to a tragic deserted husband in a next breath. And, in the last and finest sketch, the starling Philip Voss chooses suicide only to attempt it by eating himself feet first.

The arrival of an angelic ghost, promising eventual Paradise, provides a happy ending sadder than any tragedy.

Anthony Masters

Theatre

Delicate character

Time and the Conways Chichester

The last of the J. B. Priestley time plays to achieve a major revival, Time and the Conways, strikes me as by far the best, and a complete aesthetic justification of Priestley's espousal of the "serial time" theory of J. W. Dunne.

The theory itself, which converts time from a fluid element into something as solid and three-dimensional as a piece of sculpture, seems to rest on a confusion of philosophic categories. But, as an adjunct to plot construction, Priestley proves it to be a wonderful tool.

Without that element Time and the Conways would have been a sour chronicle of national decline, beginning in 1919 with a rapturous reunion for an upper-middle-class family, all full of hope for personal happiness and the chance of building a better world; and then moving on 20 years to show how all their dreams went up in smoke.

Thanks to the time theory, only the characters succumb to bitterness, while the play itself observes them from another dimension, bestowing irony and compassion but never slamming them shut inside the prison they have made for themselves.

By sandwiching what would normally by the 1938 climax in between two acts set in 1919, Priestley also achieves an effortless succession of dramatic

surprises. You can see from the outset that young Robin, swaggering back to a hero's welcome in his RAF uniform, is going to wind up as a drunken failure, leading his dotting mother into bankruptcy.

But the other destinies are less predictable. The beautiful Hazel snubs a weedy little business man who invades the birthday party. Twenty years later she is married to him and totally in his power. The mother casually mentions how well Carol's grave is being looked after, and you suddenly recall the girl who was playing charades a few moments before.

Peter Dew's production takes full advantage of Priestley's device of building each of the three acts round a well-defined social occasion: first the charades party, followed by a meeting with the family solicitor and, finally, a set of courtship routines.

In each case the formal events get detailed attention, and to begin with there is so much inventive business with false noses, funny hats and mother upstaging the game with her Spanish number that some of the basic plot points go speeding by unheeded.

Enough is established, however, to secure a grim contrast and their self-litigating children and the disappoing and bickering crew who gather to hear the bad news from their stuffy local solicitor whom we last saw as a boisterous juvenile.

The individual performances leave you with a new respect for the delicacy of Priestley's sense



A family full of hope: Andrew Hawkins (left), Emice Roberts, Gooogie Withers, Julia Foster, Simon Williams, Angela Down

of character. There are some cardboard figures, like the brainlessly arrogant Robin, whom Simon Williams is powerless to present as anything more than one of Priestley's class enemies. But Angela Down awakens full understanding for the ardent postwar socialist who shrivels into a

perpetually disappointing schoolteacher. Julia Foster, in the Cassandra-like role of Kay, traces a similar route from literary ambition to back news journalism; and Lucy Fleming, a Botticelli face mixed with a gauche and nervous body, is inspired casting for Robin's abandoned wife.

Irving Wardle

Opera

director of great talent, have given back style and dignity to the San Carlo.

The new regime started with an excellent Flaminio by Pergolesi, followed by La sonnambula built around the fine talent of Cecilia Gasdia, who has since become a star. It went on with a daring Don Giovanni and then a scoop, the first staging of Mussorgsky's unfinished opera Salammbô, based on Flaubert's novel. Mussorgsky started composing Salammbô to his own libretto when he was 24, but he never finished it. He did though exchange letters with Flaubert.

Mussorgsky left six unconnected scenes of Salammbô, very little of which was orchestrated, plus some pieces for chorus. But was there enough to stage a spectacle? Naples's Salammbô has been the labour of love of the conductor and musicologist Zoltan Pesko, who recorded the opera in 1980 and conducted its

first staged performances at the San Carlo, "Back in 1976", says Pesko. "I heard that musicologists in Moscow knew that there existed an extensive score of the opera but only two pieces out of 85 were orchestrated." A friend of mine in Leningrad sent him a microfilm of the score (Pesko had himself left Hungary in 1963 and has been living in the West ever since).

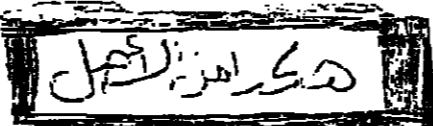
On the basis of Mussorgsky's manuscript and his own works score, "I had to take decisions of an aesthetic nature, using the existing material and trying to go in the same direction." Pesko's was a brave operation the repertoire: musically Salammbô shows Mussorgsky's genius to the full, but theatricality is a limbo statue. Pesko was convinced it could be staged; few others were. Pesko stopped around several European opera houses, but only the San Carlo responded. They

decided to call Yuri Lubimov, director of the Na Taganka Theatre in Moscow and responsible for La Scala's Boris, to put together the unconnected scenes.

The music, which is mainly choral and - in spite of Flaubert and Carthage - deeply Russian, tells the story of the Carthaginian Salammbô, priestess to the rebellious Libyan mercenaries, with her children in love with her. Children are sacrificed, Mathô is taken captive, tortured and killed: at the sight of his body, even Salammbô expostulates. The whole opera was about to succumb as well when the chosen Russian mezzo and bass were not granted exit visas two weeks before Salammbô's first night. However the Romanian Boris Bakov and the American Annabella Bernard quickly came to the rescue, - in less than a week, with Bakov doing notably well.

In order to link the scenes Lubimov placed both Flaubert and Mussorgsky on stage. The notes of a piano and some quotations from Mussorgsky's and Flaubert's correspondence open the opera. Flaubert is seen walking around the flat panels which all the stage and which have the colour of the desert. They move with the action, suggesting the wind, tents and the desert. The opera could easily have become a oratorio, because there is little action from the solo singers but a lot of participation by the chorus (the Philharmonia from Prague, the local San Carlo and the Pueri Cantores who, under the direction of a friar, sang particularly well). At the end of the opera, the vision of Mussorgsky, close to a broken piano, symbolizing the unfinished work, is naive; but it might disappear when Salammbô next appears at the San Carlo, which could well be later this year.

Gaia Servadio



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We hope you'll enjoy reading about the wines below and that you'll be tempted to turn a wine list into something even more satisfying.

A shopping list.

1. Château Grand Puy Ducasse 1979 Pauillac

A classic Claret from one of the most important communes in the Médoc. Full bodied with good fruit and tannin this wine will develop over the next three or four years into a fine wine of distinction. £7.45.

2. Château Jean-Fauré 1979 Grand Cru St. Émilion

Like all St. Émilions this wine will drink younger than the great growth clarets and is already soft and fruity. The 1979 is delightfully drinkable and offers, along with elegant medium weight, a bouquet with a hint of violets. £5.45.



3. Château de Poncié 1981 Fleurie

The true charm and distinction of one of the most delicate of the Beaujolais. Granite soil and the Gamay grape have combined in one of the more southerly Beaujolais villages to produce a wine which is soft, fruity and delicately perfumed. Superb with cold meats or cheese - but many would say with anything. £4.35.

4. Château Tourteau Chollet 1980 Graves

Graves, a huge area of wine production to the south of Bordeaux is famed for its rich, slightly spicy red wines. Small proprietors abound in the area, producing wines which are firm when young and pay for keeping. Here is a pleasant fruity example of medium weight which will go happily with most meats or cheese. £3.60.

5. Château du Bousquet 1981 Côtes de Bourg

Less well known than the Médocs which lie opposite, the wines of the Côtes de Bourg offer excellent value for money. The best of the slopes, near the river, include the vines from which this splendid example is formed. Although it will keep, it can be enjoyed now without hesitation. £3.20.

6. Gevrey Chambertin 1978

Amongst the richest and most enduring of all the great Burgundies, this full-bodied and powerful wine, from the celebrated village on the slopes of the Côte de Nuits, will be enjoyed with the richer meats - a pheasant would be ideal. £8.95.

7. St. Amour 1980

Produced on the granite soil of the most northerly of the nine nominated 'cru' villages which produce the best of the Beaujolais. St. Amour is fruity and fresh. £3.75.

8. Domaine de Palestor 1979 - Châteauneuf du Pape

Châteauneuf du Pape is recognised the world over as the finest of the southern Rhône's. Dark, strong and long-lived. This is a fine example from the rocky vineyard of one of the leading growers and two or three years more bottle age will improve it. £5.25. (Coming shortly)

9. Gigondas 1981

Like its more famous neighbour Châteauneuf du Pape, Gigondas is a deep, hearty, robust red wine, taking its character from the Grenache grapes which predominate in the blend. It will hold its own with game, roasts, casseroles and all cheese dishes. £4.55.

10. Château la Borie - Rhone 1982

This is the product of a vineyard which was totally replanted 20 years ago. (It has grown in reputation as a result.) The presence of Syrah and Grenache in the blend gives the slight peppery sensation on the palate which is so characteristic of a Rhône wine. £2.99.



11. Château Barreyres 1979 Haut-Médoc

The Médoc, on the west bank of the river, is the most important red wine district of Bordeaux. Here, from just north of the Margaux, is an excellent fruity claret of medium weight, which has been made with great care and would even improve with a few years bottle age. £3.55.

12. Domaine du Colombier 1982 Chinon

Though less well-known there are some fine fresh light reds from the gravel soils of the Loire. This one has a distinct fruitiness and pleasant acidity. It is best drunk young and will happily accept a degree of chilling. £3.75.

13. Château de Goutgazaud 1980 - Minervois

From the hilly country of the Languedoc-Roussillon but with more of the Cabernet Sauvignon grape than is usual. This makes for a distinctive medium-bodied wine of charm - robust enough for most meats and cheeses. £4.99. (Magnum)

14. Clos de La Mouchère 1980 - Puligny Montrachet

Another great classic dry French white wine. Produced to the north of Meursault and lacking some of its softness it is, perhaps, the ultimate accompaniment to oysters but enhances any fish or white meat. £3.45.

15. Domaine De La Bizolière 1982 Savennières

The white Anjou wines to the western end of the Loire Valley are characteristically dry and full bodied - some say with the crispness of new apples. Here is a fine example, best drunk young and served chilled, it is slightly flowery with good acidity. £3.60.



16. Meursault Moillard 1980

Meursault's Pinot Chardonnay grapes provide some of the world's great white wines. Rich, smooth and dry, but mellow. This is a fine example, soft and full, which will mature and improve for two or three years. £6.95.

17. Sancerre Les Perriers 1982

This was a good year in the Loire, where the Sauvignon grapes grown on limestone produce elegant, dry white wines. This fresh and fruity wine from Verdigny is best drunk young and slightly chilled. £4.65.

18. Moulin Touchais 1964 - Anjou

The valley of the Loire shelters the Chenin Blanc vines from which are made some exceptional white wines. In the limestone 'caves' at Doué la Fontaine lies a huge selection of some of France's best kept wine secrets. Moulin Touchais is one. The perfect dessert wine with plenty of fruit and a balanced sweetness best revealed when chilled. £5.75.

19. Château Terre du Moulin 1982 Entre-deux-Mers

Between the 'two seas' of the Dordogne and the Garonne lies a vast area of wine production. The whites of this area are allowed the 'appellation'. Here is a crisp, fruity dry white wine from a grower with an established reputation for consistent quality. £2.75.

20. Clos St. Georges 1981 Graves Supérieures

Long before Graves was known for the red wines with which it is now most associated, it had a high reputation for sweet white wines. Clos St. Georges is found on the borders of Barsac. It has depth, style and length, which come through impressively on the palate. £2.99.

21. Château de Beaulieu 1980 Côteaux Du Layon

Beaulieu is one of only six communes in this sheltered area to the south of the Loire to be granted the 'appellation'. This is an exceptional medium sweet white wine with lots of fruit and an acidity of considerable length which give it great style and depth. At its best lightly chilled with fresh fruit. £2.80.

22. Muscat de Beaumes - De-Venise

This is a naturally sweet white wine from the southern end of the Rhône Valley. The sun has ample time to develop the sugar and add a delicate perfume and flavour. A dessert wine of great distinction. £4.25.

23. Uerziger Würzgarten Auslese 1975 Moselle

The Riesling wines of Würzgarten are sheltered by mountains and this fragrant and spicy sweet wine is produced from selected (auslese) grapes. Serve chilled with desserts or as a special aperitif. £5.99.



24. Domaine De La Bretonnerie 1982, Muscadet De Sevre et Maine Sur Lie

This Muscadet is named after two of the Loire's great tributaries. It has the added fruit and body which results from the grapes remaining longer on the vines ('sur lie'). Ideal with fish - especially shellfish. A light, dry and refreshing white wine. £2.99.

25. Kiedricher Heiligenstock Kabinett 1982 Rheingau

From the pride of Germany's wine land come some splendid and white wines. This one is no exception. Elegant and well-balanced it is a distinguished accompaniment to most white meat and fish. £4.20.

26. Deidesheimer Herrgottsacker Kabinett 1981 Rheinpfalz

Wines from the Palatinate are rich, well flavoured, and lively and Deidesheimer is regarded as one of the best villages. This is a light medium dry white wine and versatile enough for fish, poultry or a chilled aperitif. £4.10.

27. Apetloner Gewürztraminer Beerenauslese 1981

Specially selected and overripe grapes from the Gewürztraminer vines at Apetlon in the Burgenland of Austria, produce a wine of concentrated sweetness and depth to compare with the best of the Sauternes. Lightly chilled it makes a superb accompaniment to fruit or dessert. £4.95. (Coming shortly)

28. Amarone Pasqua 1978

This is a Recioto della Valpolicella - not to be confused with the more popular wine of the latter name. Only the grapes from the 'ears' of the vine which have begun to dry in the sun are used. The result is a dry red wine of high quality and full flavour. £3.95. (Coming shortly)

29. Quinta da Bacalhã 1981

Portuguese red wines have been a rather well-kept secret for too long. This one produced from Cabernet Sauvignon grapes, matured in chestnut casks, is similar to a dry red Bordeaux. Like all Portuguese reds, it will improve with keeping. £3.65.

Good wine costs less at Sainsbury's.

Malcolm McLaren was dismissed as a distasteful maverick when he managed the Sex Pistols, but there is more to him than an outrageous gift for publicity

Proud pirate of punk

By Michael Watts

One of the more mischievous sights on *Top of the Pops* this year has been a pale, pockish figure with a Groucho Marx walk and a megaphone, instructing athletic New York gutter-snipes in the art of square dancing. This was a video film of Malcolm McLaren performing his chart hit "Buffalo Gals", a culture clash of disco and hillbilly music that has made him, at 36, a pop star at his first attempt. For until now McLaren has been known as the co-owner of an avant-garde fashion business, and as the "Svengali" (a frequent newspaper description) behind rock figures Adam and the Ants, Bow Wow Wow, Boy George of Culture Club, and most imperishably, the Sex Pistols. Selling fashion through music, and vice-versa, he has become this country's most important broker of young style.

Very few pop group managers are as familiar as his charges. None has been like McLaren, except possibly Andrew Loog Oldham, who in the 1960s shaped the Rolling Stones' profitably anti-social behaviour. A decade later McLaren also pursued notoriety, through the Sex Pistols and punk rock's appeal to malcontent, often unemployed youth, but he has been much more than an audacious publicist: he can claim artistic responsibility for performers he has launched. Now he has tested the hypothesis on himself, compelling the press and record industry, which has often thought him a distasteful maverick to reconsider.

In the past the possibility of a *succes de scandale* has motivated him more than money. He is a sensation-seeker who briefly recruited Great Train Robber Ronnie Biggs to the Sex Pistols. In the week of the Silver Jubilee the Pistols' song "God Save the Queen" almost reached the top of the charts, causing even more comic outrage across the nation than John Osborne's *Declaration* in the 1950s against "royalty religion, the national swill".

Yet of his own debut LP, released this month, only the title - *Duck Rock*, taken from the Marx Brothers' *Duck Soup* - salutes anarchy. Initially budgeted at £30,000, finally costing more than £100,000, it is an idiosyncratic account of McLaren's musical researches in South Africa, the Appalachian mountains of east Tennessee, and New York's black and Latin communities.

The LP illustrates the main characteristics of McLaren's career in the music and rag trades: an eye for a good idea, his own or someone else's, and brilliant cheek in exploiting it. He enjoyed travelling illegally in Soweto, accommodating black musicians in his Johannesburg hotel and infuriating South Africa's white record executives by paying above-average fees to the blacks. But he has been equally cavalier, and quite unrepentant, in copyrighting black rhythms.

"Did Chuck Berry get copyright from the Beatles?" he demands. (Yes, actually.) "For me, England is the land of piracy," he declares, warming to a favourite theme. "Our reputation is as presenters of other people's cultures. There's nothing original in pop music. Maggie Thatcher talks about selling ideas. You can't sell ideas! Ideas are stolen."

British pop culture does not currently excite him. "Britain is a banana republic in the English



Malcolm McLaren: style broker with "ghetto blaster"

Channel, but without the bananas," he chuckles. "Our affinity is now with Third World countries, the dispossessed, and that's why ethnic culture has become such a new sport with young people in England." This is a reference to the present fashion for African music and also to the products, naturally, of his own World's End clothing company.

World's End, his creation with the 42-year-old designer Vivienne Westwood, incorporates the original shop of that name in Chelsea, another called Nostalgia of Mud in the West End, and a third store opening in Paris this autumn. Westwood, the mother of McLaren's 15-year-old son, is small and intense, sharing his determination to *épater les bourgeois* but lacking his saving sense of the ridiculous.

In 1971 they borrowed £100 from her mother and rented space in a denim boutique, Paradise Garage, at the unfashionable end of King's Road. They have been in the same premises, under a variety of names, ever since.

Let It Rock, the first of their own shops, specialised in Teddy Boy drape suits, while the subsequent Too Fast To Live, Too Young To Die drew rockers in chains and their girls in leather mini-skirts. That was followed by the rubberwear of Sex which, in 1976, led to the bondage clothes of Seditionaries, whose barricaded shopfront, evoking Belfast, complemented the shackled punk look of straps, safety pins and spiky hair.

Punk originated in kinky sex wear, but was worn as a badge of bad taste by the new, recession-hit Blank Generation, to express rejection of 1960s' peaceful values. The straps were McLaren's invention ("overt sexuality, a real affront"), as was much of punk's agitprop ("No Future", "Cash out of Chaos"), which sprang ironically, from his student background in the 1960s.

As an art student, active in the "hooligan politics" of London and Paris, he had been particularly influenced by the now obscure Situationists: anarchists and surrealists who asserted that to poke fun at the world is to provoke its collapse. He now encouraged the Sex Pistols to turn style back into revolt: to incite their young audience to trample on conventions and make their own, not the record industry's kind of music. The drama of confrontation ended two years later, in 1979, when Rotten sued McLaren, and Sid Vicious overdosed on heroin

while facing the charge of murdering his girlfriend.

McLaren was rescued when Adam Ant, a young punk rocker, paid him several hundred pounds to revive his own flagging fortunes. Living in Paris and compiling soundtracks for soft-porn films, McLaren had discovered folk music and his improbable advice to Adam and his Ants, to imitate the exciting drum rhythms of the African Burundi tribe, worked spectacularly.

In 1980 Adam reemerged a sexy teen idol, parroting his mentor's glib theory that, in order to banish hard times, unemployed punks should dress up like proud warriors. Westwood responded by designing washbuckling clothes, largely inspired by *Les Incroyables*, the French Revolutionary dandies, and suddenly fashion journalists were approving. Soon McLaren had reapplied the idea of piracy to modern technology.

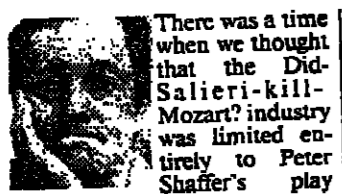
He seized upon the well-publicized argument that home-taping and pirated recordings severely depress record sales. So Bow Wow Wow's first single "C30 C60 C90 Go", containing his lyrics, precisely advocated home-taping and was originally issued only on cassette. He promoted it in line with the growing high-street popularity of Sony Walkmans and portable stereo cassette players ("ghetto blasters"), identifying the group with "roller-skating, cassette-swinging, microchip kids"; the Blank Tape Generation. Like the Sex Pistols before them, however, Bow Wow Wow became resentful of his manipulation and his attempts to introduce the androgynous singer Boy George, "a femme version of Adam Ant". Before leaving them to start his own record last year, he had seemed to be all that his detractors proclaimed.

Now, revitalised, he promises that *Duck Rock* will transform discotheques, "those temples of despair and loneliness", by urging a return to touch-dancing. But its first effect has been on Vivienne Westwood, whose latest collection, *Witches*, combines urban American elements (graffiti designs) with ethnic motifs (Hopi Indian prints).

The recent recording of "God Save the Queen" by Michael Fagan, the Buckingham Palace intruder, confirms that punk's attitude survives. McLaren recalls swapping stories with the Zulus in Soweto. "I told them the history of the Sex Pistols. They were in fits of laughter."

Dial M for Mozart

MOREOVER... Miles Kingston



There was a time when we thought that the Did-Salieri-kill-Mozart industry was limited entirely to Peter Shaffer's play *Amadeus* and to Bernard Levin's comments thereon. But things have started to spread since then. Puskin has written a long poem on the subject; Rimsky-Korsakov has written a whole opera about the case; and earlier this month the Brighton Festival staged an entire inquest to try to decide how Mozart met his end.

Before things get entirely out of hand, I think I had better print a complete check-list of current entertainments based on this absorbing murder mystery.

Salieri's Teeth (*The Shulman, National Theatre*): Peter

Ustinov's ingenious tour de force in which Mozart returns to modern Europe to see if history blames Salieri for his death. He bumps into Salieri, reincarnated as an Arts Council official, and decides to kill him. But will he get a grant for the attempt?

Can't Play? Won't Play! (*Riverside Warehouse*): A reenactment of the mystery by Italian superstar Dario Fo, who plays all the parts. It's not always easy to tell from the mime and simultaneous translation what exactly is going on, but Fo seems to be pinning the whole thing on the young Beethoven, rather than on a short, rather "la" musical joke called "Anarchist Death of an Accidental". *Widow* (*Channel 4*): A new thriller series from Euston Films, makers of *Minder* and *Widows*, in which Mrs Mozart takes an oath to track down and kill Salieri, whether he killed

her husband or not. The use of plastic bombs and Ford Cortinas is a little anachronistic but the suspense is undeniable. *Educating Wolfgang* (*General Release*): Pleasant comedy with social overtones, in which young Mozart, an illiterate genius, takes lessons from the older Salieri, a literate clod. They both decide simultaneously to kill each other.

The Weird and Wonderful Weltanschauung of Wolfgang M (*Wardle, Shaftesbury Avenue*): A rollicking extravaganza by J. P. Donleavy in which Mozart and Salieri gang together to bump off Clementi. Unfortunately, they run out of money before they can get to London for the purpose, but there are plenty of laughs and the language is wonderful.

Wolfgang and Gertie (*Upstairs, the Tinker's Arms*): Sheridan Morley admits in this enterprising pot-pourri of Coward and Mozart songs that Gertrude Lawrence and Mozart never actually met, but nevertheless the touching quality of this might-have-been relationship is fully brought out in a song-and-dance evening. Mozart's presence adds new meaning to "Don't Let's Be Beasty to the Germans".

Another Concerto (*Frayn, Strand*): Julian Mitchell's absorbing drama set in a German public school in the late eighteenth century. Idealistic young Wolfgang wants only to write his music, but Professor Salieri persuades him to take up billiards and go drinking with

the lads. The final act takes place 20 years later, on Old Boys' Day, when Mozart comes back to present the prizes. Will Professor Salieri's plot to gain revenge with an unearthed microphone succeed.

Death in Vienna (*BBC2, Thursday*): Long and extremely beautiful film in which Mozart wanders endlessly round old Vienna. We also see Salieri wandering interminably round Vienna. The suspense, such as it is, lies in whether the two will meet, whether they will recognize each other if they do, and what they will do about it. In point of fact they do meet, but they take each other for Schubert and Hummel, and pass on. Highly recommended, though not for the strong-hearted.

Mad Mozart (*General Release*): Another weird road movie set in post-cultural Australia. Did

Mozart really strangle Salieri with an exhaust pipe? The makers seem to think so.

Buggy Mozart (*West End cinema*): An all-child cast reenacts the Mozart-Salieri fight in a Chicago pool hall. The portrayal of Mozart as a child prodigy is somewhat spoilt by the fact that he was a child prodigy.

Mozart and Salieri Are Dead (*Allday, Bush House*): A typical Tom Stoppard play, in that Mozart and Salieri never appear. Instead, the action centres on Köchel, the man who numbered all Mozart's work, and believes he finds a clue to Mozart's death in an unnumbered divertimento. Quite why David Irving turns up in the last act, promising £1,000 to anyone who can prove that Hitler ordered Mozart's death, is not entirely clear.

Dirty deal in Dalis

Spain's art world is in a state of shock after the uncovering of frauds involving hundreds of pictures alleged to be by the country's greatest living painter, the aging Salvador Dali

By Richard Wigg

As the longest queues the Madrid Museum of Contemporary Art has ever seen form for *400 Works by Salvador Dali: 1914-1983*, an official homage to the surrealist painter, a Barcelona investigating magistrate has just freed five Spaniards on £200,000 bail after charging them with belonging to a ring which manufactured and sold fake Dalis in large quantities.

Among them was Señor Manuel Pujol Baladas, a hitherto unknown 35-year-old painter accused of faking Dalis for profit; another was the woman proprietor of an art gallery. The remainder were accused of marketing the paintings, knowing them to be fakes.

Señor Pujol had previously confessed to the magistrate that he had been responsible for a substantial part of Dali's "official" output since 1975, including about 30 oil paintings and 100 drawings, watercolours and gouaches.

The Pujol affair has shocked the Spanish art world, uncovering a black market of fly-by-night galleries, fast-talking contact men and commercial "brains", a world created during the country's hot-house years of economic prosperity. Recently reformed tax laws and the part of the present depression in forcing nouveau riche collectors to sell helps explain why the latest art scandal has broken at this awkward time, coinciding with the retrospective exhibition, Madrid's answer to big shows at the Centre Pompidou and London in 1980.

Joan-Josep Tharrats, at 64 one of Spain's best-known abstract painters, told me: "Dali is now very appetizing to all kinds of collectors. He is the highest-paid living artist with a worldwide reputation. So his works are becoming better investments".

Señor Tharrats is a friend of Dali, who was 79 last month. Señor Tharrats continued: "These fakes of Dali are so bad that only fools who have never seen a good picture in their lives would think they could really be by him".

A prominent Barcelona commercial lawyer recounted how one of his client's debtors, an industrialist, had recently offered through his lawyers two Dali paintings as security until his business improved and he could meet his obligations. The creditors were told: "Take the genuine Dali and the fake, which is very good, so there can be no doubt".

For almost a century Catalonia has shown a great love of the arts, especially painting; the young Pablo Picasso found his first patrons there. All kinds of vendors emerged; some respectable, others that met the large demand by offering "bargains", satisfying those attracted primarily by profit.

The Barcelona investigating magistrate, 42-year-old Señor Manuel Saez Parga, told me that during more than three months of investigations, 300 fakes had been identified and either seized by the police or left with their owners. Two-thirds, he estimated, were "Dali" oils or

drawings. In a Civil Guard barracks in Barcelona I was shown 17 of the confiscated paintings - they included drawings purporting to be by Dali, Picasso, Miró, Juan Gris, Matisse and Renoir. They would not have fooled anyone reasonably familiar with the artists' work.

Inquiries began after a Catalan businessman indicated a willingness to sell some modern works he had accepted from a factory owner in financial difficulties. The scandal began to emerge when one potential buyer took along Señor Marçal Barrachina, an expert on Catalan art and a restorer to the Montserrat Monastery collections. Señor Barrachina went around the pictures, saying: "False... false... false..." Later the businessman denounced the fakes to the police and Señor Saez stepped in.

The magistrate ordered Señor Pujol's arrest last month, together with those of Señora Begona Guerrero, the co-owner of a gallery, and Señor Jose Bella de Molina, accusing them of marketing 47 paintings knowing them to be fakes, principally by Catalan painters such as Dali, Miró, Ramon Casas and Isidre Nonell, but also by Picasso and Renoir.

Señor Barrachina told me how, in his belief, many fakes had come on the market in the last five years. Shady dealers, he said, are able to spin convincing yarns. "They say a painting has been withdrawn before being auctioned and that they are able to offer it to you 'privately'", he said. "Or they agree, with feigned reluctance, to part with one from their 'collection'".

Señor Pujol claimed to the investigating magistrate, and subsequently to the news magazine *Cambio 16*, that he had been paid around 15,000 pesetas (about £75) for each painting by Señor Bella de Molina, alleging that the latter had resold them, without his knowledge, for far larger sums, as genuine Dalis.

Under Spanish law, a magistrate must prove that the faker's intention is to achieve financial gain. In Spain's art market, *caveat emptor* is the best-respected law, yet the myth of the *ganga* (bargain) never dies.

With such a mentality goes selling "privately" in the art black market to avoid Spain's 22 per cent luxury tax on top of the auctioneer's fee. An owner thus gets only 68 per cent of the sale result in Spain, instead of 90 per cent in bigger art centres, such as London.

This opens the door to unscrupulous vendors peddling fakes. No one can, or wants to, ask the right questions. The black market has become busier, some dealers say, since the arrival of post-Franco democracy, with the full luxury tax being levied instead of partially

overlooked, as it often was by Franco's tax inspectors.

An underworld of faking certificates also exists, and in one case, the works were accompanied by a forged certificate of authenticity from the Centre Pompidou in Paris.

Señor Antonio Pitxot, a 49-year-old painter friend of Dali, now attends almost daily the surrealist master, who has otherwise lived in seclusion at his property, Pubol Castle, since his wife Gala died last June. He told me the whole business was "shameful". Dali himself, he recalled, had telephoned the editor of a Gerona newspaper last August to swear that the painting *Metaphysic Cosmos* was a fake. It was being shown last summer in Perpignan, across the Pyrenees in France by Captain Peter Moore, an Irishman who had been Dali's secretary until 1978. Moore had been the founder of a tourist attraction in Cadaques, the "1,001 Dalis" museum.

A leading Madrid art auctioneer says the Pujol affair is having "an unfortunate impact" on the market for Dali works: "People are worried about what the real situation is, and are therefore leaving him alone," he says. The painter's long creative decline meant that Dali was now treated "almost like an extinct master", with works from the 1970s onwards commanding less than a tenth of the prices of those from the 1930s and '40s.

Señora Ana Veristain, the organizer of the Madrid exhibition, told me: "All the Dalis on show are genuine, with abundant provenance." Unfortunately, however, the important period of the 1930s is not well represented, thanks to a lack of cooperation by museums in Britain and the United States (the Dutch, on the other hand, have sent three surrealist works of great importance).

How remarkable it would have been if Spaniards, who now have Picasso's *Guernica* home at last to help heal the terrible Civil War wounds, could just for a few weeks also have been able to see Dali's *Autumn Cannibalism*, 1936, which resides in the Tate Gallery. The point is underlined by a preliminary sketch for *Premunition of Civil War*, 1936, lent by a private collector - presumably because the Philadelphia Museum, which owns this deeply moving painting, would not oblige.

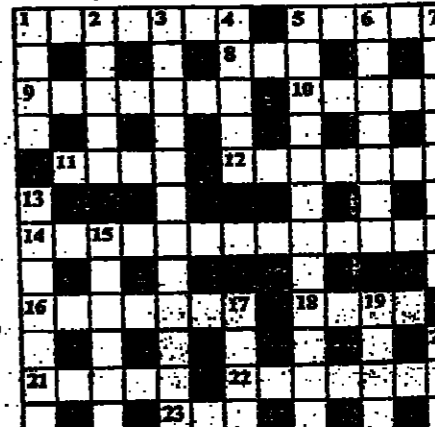
One way and another, and with or without his consent or connivance, Dali is maintaining in his long decline his reputation as a source of controversy. Meanwhile, a 61-year-old art expert has failed to answer a summons connected with the Pujol case, and is now missing. "I wish," the magistrate Saez told me, "there existed in Spain the same respect for the courts as in your country."

Dali: 79 years old and said to be a declining talent but still a source of controversy



CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 69)

- ACROSS
- 1 Type burst (7)
 - 2 French white (5)
 - 3 Ulster military (1,1,1)
 - 4 Incorrect distribution (7)
 - 5 Familiar song (5)
 - 6 Knock out (4)
 - 7 Overprecise people (5)
 - 8 Unimportant (13)
 - 9 18 Milestone record system (7,4)
 - 10 Gate fastening (5)
 - 11 At moderate tempo (7)
 - 12 Print measures (3)
 - 13 Happen again (5)
 - 14 Blessed fields (7)



- DOWN
- 1 Explosive device (6)
 - 2 Beginning (5)
 - 3 Sea scientist (13)
 - 4 Dutch flower (5)
 - 5 Tolerantly (5,8)
 - 6 Additions (7)
 - 7 Wood preservative (8)
 - 8 Round (8)
 - 9 Acting in warming (7)
 - 10 Army (5)
 - 11 Branch of Islam (5)
 - 12 College head (4)

SOLUTION TO No 68
ACROSS: 1 Switch 2 Kitch 3 Emm 4 Vernal 5 Degray 6 GMWU
12 Casualty 13 Pines 15 Wizard 17 Garrison 20 Oris 22 Impos 23 Brooch
24 Via 25 Adverb 26 Gown
DOWN: 2 Whelan 3 Treasure 4 Helikat 5 Kudos 6 Theca 7 Chanter
14 Unarmed 15 Windbag 16 Zoology 18 Rhone 19 Sieve 21 Boche
(Solution to No 69 on Monthly) Recommended dictionary is the new Collins Concise English

FRIDAY PAGE

The childless 10 per cent

Anne Karpf examines attitudes towards the isolation of infertility

Infertility is a remarkably extensive though little-publicized problem, with one in 10 couples sterile, making a total of about two million in Britain alone. The disappointment is not something to mention loudly in a society in which newly wed women are still asked when they will "start a family", and male fertility is often confused with sexual potency. Most infertile people feel isolated.

children more. Though they question this assumption, they believe that because this is how society regards women, infertility is a greater crisis for women. Also it is usually women who first undergo the fertility investigations even when the problem is eventually discovered to lie with their partner.



Wendy Hoyle

and it is useful to have a book of consumers voicing them. Dr Maurice Katz, who runs the infertility clinic at University College Hospital, agrees that though most accounts of infertility recognize the emotional aspects, few delve into it. Dr Stephen Franks, of St Mary's Hospital, an endocrinologist with a special interest in infertility, is also sympathetic to Pfeiffer and Woollett's view.

infertile woman is expected to follow instructions and not question decisions. Robert Winston thinks the criticism is valid and may apply to some hospitals although his clinic makes a point of encouraging women to ask questions.

"magical" explanations (such as the first appointment acting as a spontaneous "cure") in the face of their own lack of knowledge. Robert Winston thinks this is true - "Doctors are not very good at saying 'I can't help you'". And Dr Franks believes that "it's still possible to cover up one's own area of ignorance and fob people off with platitudes".

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Coping with examinitis

For many young people May and June spell misery - exams. Everybody suffers from "exam nerves" but the vast majority of A level candidates and final students cope with the anxiety. But a minority find themselves so worked up about the impending "torment" that they stop sleeping and go to their GP for help.

jurisdiction and not simply refer the case back to Britain. So far other British groups making claims this way have had mixed success. Last summer Ohio Southern District Chief Judge Carl Rubin refused to hear claims by 12 British women that their babies had been born deformed because they had taken Debenax to combat sickness during pregnancy.

Other US courts however have taken on disputes of this sort. In 1981 a judge in Richmond, Virginia ruled that 25 British women could sue the drug company A. H. Robbins in that court.

Worm turns The acid test of any medical theory is whether or not other independent workers can verify a researcher's findings. As last week's Lancet records, three months ago American researcher Dr Judith Lueck of the Loyola Stritch School of Medicine in Chicago stunned pathologists and obstetricians on both sides of the Atlantic when she claimed to have found a microscopic worm which was responsible for toxemia and high blood pressure in pregnancy.

Opren and the courts

The Opren Action Committee's decision to sue the American manufacturers of the drug in the US courts aims to take advantage of a legal system which, unlike our own, already recognizes that drug companies should be liable for any damage their drug causes, which allows easy access to essential information and which is not prohibitive to plaintiffs of moderate means on the grounds of cost.

Shocked into looking for the organism themselves Dr Gillian Gau and colleagues at Queen Charlotte's Maternity Hospital in London tried some of Dr Lueck's investigations. They found that whenever they repeated Dr Lueck's method of isolating and preparing specimens of the worm from placentas they too saw it under the microscope. However, when they omitted one stage - treating the sample with acid - results were always negative. Also a close look at the "worms" revealed that they did not have a worm-like structure at all.

Ill fares the biggest welfare state

COMMENT

Stockholm Sweden boasts one of the most extensive welfare states in the world - a safety net for Swedish families who cannot provide. But what does this mean in practice? It means that, among other things, between five and 10 times as many children are taken from families by the Swedish state than in any comparable country.



From left to right Helena, Stefan and Thomas Olsson

a "social board" composed of local politicians decided whether the children should be taken permanently into care. An appeal against the decision could be made through the administrative courts. Two details have changed since then: the social board may now make decisions only in emergencies, and foster homes are now known as family care homes. When the social board considered its case, the Olssons discovered that the authorities considered both of them mentally handicapped and had done so for years on the opinion of a doctor - now dead - who had not even examined them.

criminals, drunks, or drug abusers and outwardly can appear quite normal. To formulate reasons to justify taking their children into care is a job he has described as "like finding your way through swamps in a fog". But he is certain it is worthwhile.

NEXT WEEK

Suzy Menkes on dressing down the art of dressing up

THE TIMES Tomorrow

START THE WEEKEND WITH THE PAPER THAT INFORMS, STIMULATES, AMUSES AND PROVOKES

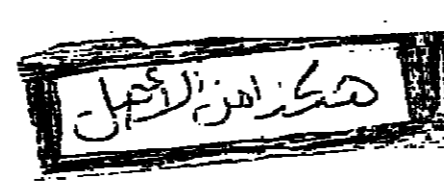
Advertisement for The Times newspaper featuring a list of articles: Rothermere's Revenge: How Bernard Levin almost got a Daily Mail editor sacked by 'helping' Harold Wilson to Number 10. Family Money: Paying through the nose at the bank. Books: Literature to lounge with... a selection of holiday reading. Travel: North by north-west with a four-wheeled friend. The Times Jumbo Crossword: Three prizes of £50 to be won. Football: After the Cup cliffhanger, the British Championship. Can Ireland v England and Wales v Scotland get the fans excited? Plus All the news from home and abroad; the gardening column on lawn maintenance; summer cocktails; Values: hints for intrepid DIY enthusiasts; classical records of the month; critics' choice of what's happening in the arts.

FIRST PERSON

By Veronica Edwards How is an emancipated middle-aged woman to come to terms with the tyranny of marriage in an age when her younger sisters enjoy more freedom and independence than she would have dreamed possible in her youth? The answer could lie in a semi-detached relationship, which has clear advantages for both partners.

different in each environment and, indeed, I live under a different name at each address. It is marvellous to be free to follow my own inclinations: to eat when and what I like, not to spend ages cooking if I don't feel like it, to start the day when I want to, to listen to what I like on the radio and enjoy silence when I feel like it.

I used to prepare a fridge full of food to keep my husband going in my absence, but he is now beginning to enjoy doing a bit in the kitchen, although it must be admitted that he is not as happy about the arrangement as I am.



THE TIMES DIARY

Political tastes

The demise of Robert McKenzie and the swingometer has left the field open for new gauges of political opinion and Chris Coughlin of the Mr Crusty bakeries, Newport, Gwent, reckons his Muffinometer is as accurate as any. He reports 47.1 per cent of sales for Tory blue muffins, 22.6 for Alliance yellow, 20.6 for Labour red and 5.5 per cent for bright green Plaid Cymru. The remainder of his customers opt for a white muffin with spots in all four colours, baked specially for Don't Knows.

For the Alliance leaders, waiting for something to turn up (particularly an opinion poll), I have some cheer this morning: they are both nice chaps according to Gloria Hargrave, whose *Dictionary of Graphology* will be published on June 6. Jenkins is by nature shy, inoffensive, cautious, consistent and conscientious. But his understated script also suggests that he compromises too easily. Steel's writing is the more aggressive and ambitious. He has "a nice protective streak towards those close to him" but finds it difficult to delegate "basically because he feels he does things better himself".

Paper chase

The tentative claim by my local Tory candidate, Peter Croft, that he might have set a record by having two letters published in *The Times* within six weeks, has brought the inevitable spate of denials. The most convincing comes (some would say, of course) from Nicolas Walter, an inveterate correspondent who has achieved two letters in a month 11 times, and once (on September 15 and 16, 1975) had letters published on consecutive days. Walter is now challenging the record in the *Guinness Book* which recognizes Klockey Clarke of Surbiton as the only person known to have had more than 40 letters published. Walter is now up to 41, but thinks A. P. Herbert, David Holford, or David Green might still be in front.

Rubbed out

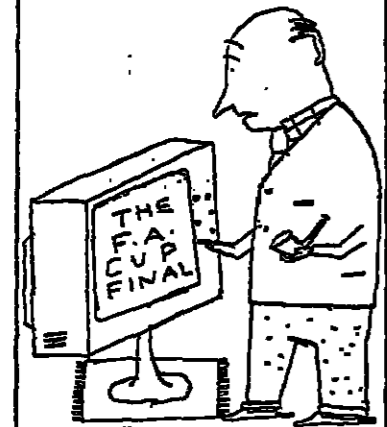
The case in which Catherine Curran sued London art dealers for selling a photographic copy as a drawing reminded Nicky Bird, now publications officer at the V & A, of the little old lady he left as proud possessor of an authenticated Samuel P. He was on the front counter at Christie's, when the lady brought in what she claimed to be a Samuel Palmer drawing. Bird asked a colleague how to tell it was not a printed reproduction. "Easy, use a rubber". So Bird did, and rubbed out half the signature.

Sound of silence

The BBC's studios at Pebble Mill are taking television economies to new extremes, by staging a silent musical. The work is 100-minute presentation of Mallory's *Morte d'Arthur* in which none of the cast of 16 utters a word. All the talking is done by a single narrator, John Barton of the RSC, and the music is being composed by Stephen Oliver.

V. I. Present

Gyles Brandreth had been puzzling what to give his wife, Michele Brown, as an original tenth wedding anniversary present. Now the problem is solved. She is getting a Mexican passport (\$150 US) or possibly stams as a Costa Rican diplomat (\$250 US). Both offers come from something called the European VIP Service. Establishment in Liechtenstein, which will also pander to vanity by registering you as a member of the U.S. Congressional Advisory Board for \$100. ("You do not have to join the United States Congressional meetings if you shouldn't want to. Since the title is officially given by the Reagan Administration, you do not have to explain in detail.") The only trouble with all this harmless nonsense is the cheapest of the VIP Establishment's offers. It is for \$50 to tell you how to register a company in Great Britain.



You can always tell it's the summer by the repeats

Après moi, le wet weekend in Skegness

"Fleet Street is not a proprietorial conspiracy against Labour," wrote Paul Johnson in last week's *Spectator*. Policies are determined by editors and the general consensus of senior staff, themselves influenced by rank-and-file journalistic opinion (and readers). This democratic process of policy forming clearly came as news to rank-and-file journalists at the *Mail* where, for the duration of the election, Mr Johnson has been engaged as a political hired gun to pick off targets on the left. Encouraged, if not prompted by his assurances, they decided the time had come for their influence to be felt at a meeting attended by about 50 journalists last Monday they complained that the paper's coverage of the general election had been "too one-sided in favour of the Conservative Party" and passed a resolution calling on the editor "to give more space and a fair degree of prominence to unbiased factual reports made by other political parties". I cannot recall anything like it happening in Fleet Street before. Newspapers are edited by editors, not shop-floor gatherings of disgruntled journalists, and the *Mail* editor, Sir David English was right to stamp firmly and swiftly on the mini-revolt in the ranks. If any of the *Mail* journalists were left in any doubt that they had stepped right out of line on this one, confirmation came next day in the form of a herogram from Tony Benn offering his congratulations and support. The *Mail's* coverage of the

David Penhalligon, the Liberal from Truro, told yesterday about a local farmer who complained of the unfairness of the Government's youth employment scheme. "Arry, who farms down the road, 'e's got a free boy. Bill, 'e's the valley, 'e's got a free boy. 'Oo 'e's compete with them when they got free boys and not me? They tell me down the Labour they've run out of free boys. They ain't got nothing else left, so I'm getting a free maid." PHS

The Times Portrait: The Foreign Secretary

Why Pym's No. 1 on the hit list

The scene, outside 10 Downing Street. The Prime Minister is with the BBC *Jim'll Fix It* television crew. A technician complains of the poor light. "Yes, I know," said Mrs Thatcher. "It's the Foreign Office, you know. They cut out all the sunshine." The Downing Street staff sniggered. It was a further dig at the Foreign Office, in disgrace since the Falklands War, and a further assault upon its head, Francis Pym.



Last week's extraordinary public tiff between Thatcher and her Foreign Secretary confirms that, whoever wins the election on June 9, Pym will not be retained in his post. The antipathy between Thatcher and Pym runs deep. She promoted him in the shock and uncertainty after the Argentine invasion of the Falklands when Lord Carrington resigned. Until General Galtieri struck, Pym had looked the most likely rival, stepped in the patrician Conservative tradition, who considered Thatcher an aberration. He had progressed to that formidable position as the heir-apparent of the Tory old guard by cautious but effective opposition to Thatcherism. As Defence Secretary, he had resisted the Treasury cuts. As one damp colleague put it: "He convinced her that she could not simultaneously be the Iron Maiden and the Iron Chancellor". It was an ill-fated conversion. She replaced him by an obedient John Nott and switched him to Leader of the House, in charge of publicizing the Government's economic efforts. He warmed a series of studiously lukewarm speeches. Her intention of removing him from a position where he could frustrate her will, while embarrassing him by having to bolster an economic policy he thought suicidal, backfired. He used it as a platform for carefully coded opposition. His most encouraging words were that a settlement was out of the question.

At the end of the War, the Thatcher-Pym attrition continued. First - the biggest insult to Pym and the Foreign Office - the PM appointed her own foreign policy adviser, Sir Anthony Parsons. Only Parsons's accomplished diplomatic skills, deployed from a room overlooking the Foreign Office, have prevented a major bust-up between the FO and Downing Street. Throughout this time, when Pym was regularly ticked off in front of officials and visiting statesmen, he remained silently loyal, both in public and private. "Francis doesn't argue back," said one observer, "he just goes pink." He was further undermined when Mrs Thatcher's close aides, whom he dubbed "poisonous acolytes", began suggesting that he might be made Speaker in a new Parliament. It was an insulting suggestion, implying the end of his active party political career, and he went out of his way to squash the rumour. Recently the suggestion has been reintroduced and he has once again let it be known that he will not be pushed aside. The Prime Minister's recent reprimands of Pym over the desirability of a landslide and the chance of a Falklands initiative have served notice on him that his place at the Foreign Office will be required after the election. The favourites for the post are Parkinson and Sir Geoffrey Howe, who feels he deserves a reward for four difficult years as Chancellor. International experience would also give him a decisive edge as Thatcher's heir-apparent. It is a mark of the Prime Minister's confidence about the outcome of the election that she has felt able to make the divisions in her party clear in the middle of an election campaign. But it also reflects that, with Labour so far below in the polls, she feels that she

is waging an election on two fronts against the Opposition and against traditional Conservatism within her own Government. The fact that William Whitehead has decided to stand for reelection against the advice of his close family is understood as a sign that he, the loyalist of the loyal but "wec" none the less, wants to be part of the equation for a new Cabinet. Part of his price for agreeing to go to the Lords may be that Pym should take his place at the Home Office. Norman Tebbit, Thatcher's favoured candidate for the post, is considered by the old guard to be totally unsuitable. Pym's skills as a conciliator would be in demand at the Home Office in a freshly-mandated Thatcher administration. Much of his party thirsts for greater "toughness" in courts and prisons. Few professionals who run the law and order services believe it would work.

Whitehead also wants to be on call should there be a hung Parliament - when a moderate presence could encourage a coalition - or should there be a Tory defeat. Though Whitehead would not expect to be a candidate for leader, he would be unlikely to support the Prime Minister in the contest in which she has already declared that she would stand. Pym is in the odd position of being either favourite as the next leader of the Conservative Party or, if thrown overboard after a Thatcher victory, relegated to a life of comparative obscurity on the backbenches. Though at one time thought to be, according to one friend, "as natural a leader of the party as a Magimix produces an age mousse", his silent passivity since the Falklands has dented that image. He remains comical throughout the party, yet is a loner and has never conspired with other beleaguered ministers. He takes his own counsel and has not cultivated a Pym clique.

His future will depend on the size of the Tory majority. His coded reference to a landslide on *Question Time* was accompanied by the cautious rider that a majority of between 50 and 100 would be about right. It was an improvement on his performance in the 1979 general election when he was savaged by Labour opponents on *Parliamentary Questions* early in the campaign. On leaving the studio on that occasion, he asked the chief Tory publicity adviser, Gordon Reese, whether he had just lost the election. The Prime Minister has announced that she would like all shades of Conservative opinion to be contained in her new Cabinet, even if there were to be a landslide. But she has limited time for those she considers to be troublemakers - and Pym is on the hit list.

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Damascus

On a mild evening in the Bekaa Valley three weeks ago, four military trucks crossed into Lebanon from Syria and turned southwards towards the Israeli front line. Each carried 15 tons of arms, and the small convoy was guarded by plain-clothes Syrian security men. The trucks eventually pulled into a field where they were met by a group of disgruntled PLO fighters, men who had already expressed their disenchantment with Yassir Arafat, the organization's chairman.

Within 24 hours, the Fatah guerrillas who received the weapons were publicly declaring a mutiny, insisting that Arafat was no longer their military leader, that he and Abu Jihad, the PLO's military commander, and the rest of the movement's leadership were preparing to sell out to Jordan and Israel, accept President Reagan's Middle East peace plan and order the PLO to lay their arms. For the PLO it was the most damaging division within the movement in 15 years.

The mutual suspicion and intrigue that still surrounds these events goes back to the spring of last year when the PLO in Beirut believed that the Israeli army was about to invade Lebanon and desperately sought arms for its guerrillas in Beirut and in the south of the country. On May 15 last year, a ship arrived in the Syrian port of Lattakia carrying 2,500 tons of weapons for the PLO from eastern

War and peace: the PLO is on a loser

Europe. All these arms - including several shoulder-fired ground-to-air missiles - were sent to Beirut overland through Syria. But once the Israelis plunged into Lebanon, the PLO found it needed yet more arms. By June 26, when the Israeli army began its systematic bombardment of west Beirut, another 1,500 tons of east European arms had arrived in Damascus by air, but neither Arafat nor other leaders of the PLO could persuade the Syrians to release them.

The Palestinians never did get those arms. Even today, they remain locked up in a military depot outside Damascus, although the Syrians deny that their army left the PLO to its fate. Did not the Syrian army fight on in Beirut as an ally of the PLO last summer? they ask. Did not the Syrians fight and die in the Lebanese mountains to defend the Arab and Palestinian cause? Are not the Syrians still in the Bekaa Valley to defend the Palestinians?

These arguments now cut little ice with Arafat and his military commanders. For almost as soon as the Palestinian guerrillas were evacuated from Beirut, the Syrians began to put pressure on the PLO leadership to adopt a more uncompromising stand against Israel.

autonomy on the West Bank, pro-Syrian guerrilla units threatened to mutiny against his leadership, Arafat subsequently broke off his discussions with the Jordanians. Arafat and his advisers believe that Abu Nidal is acting in concert with - or watched by, depending on your point of view - Mohamed El-Khouli's intelligence section of the Syrian air force, and that Damascus decides his every action.

President Assad of Syria may not want to get rid of Arafat - the two men are said to have a mutual respect that is above the petty struggles of Syria and the PLO - and indeed there is no obvious figure to replace him. But Syria's own fear of political and military isolation is prompting Damascus to push Arafat ever further along the path of rejection.

Whatever the motive for the mutiny - if it can really be graced with that name - it is a test of the PLO's independence. A year ago, it would have been put down within 24 hours. Two months ago, Arafat was in Jordan talking peace; earlier this month he was in Damascus announcing that war was the only way of changing the balance of power in the Middle East. However the PLO resolves its differences, the political independence which it sought when it was evacuated from Beirut last summer is lost now as surely as are its fortresses in southern Lebanon.

Robert Fisk

Christopher Ward on the press and the election

election has, of course, been almost wholly one-sided, but then so has the *Daily Mirror's*. On Wednesday, the main election issue for the *Mail* and, indeed, for most papers, was the Foot-Healey split over defence. This was dismissed in four paragraphs on page four of the *Daily Mirror*, which splashed on "Thatcher's Black Day", a series of embarrassing revelations concerning the Tory Party in general and the Prime Minister in particular. Most of this didn't see the light of day in the *Mail*.

This, I suspect, is no more and no less than the readers of campaigning tabloid newspapers expect. They look to their newspapers to see their own views affirmed, their prejudices confirmed. But what about the eight million voters who - according to MORI in *The Sunday Times* - still haven't made up their minds? Aren't they entitled to expect their newspaper to give them a balanced view of the important issues of this election? Don't newspapers have such a duty? If they do, then most have been neglecting it. Outside the "heavies" - *The Times*, *Daily Telegraph*, *Guardian*

How the Mirror reported the Mail 'uprising'

and *Financial Times* - there really has been no balanced reporting of this election, not even by the *Daily Star* with its election slogan, "The Paper That Gives It To You Straight". The *Star* finds itself in a particularly difficult, schizophrenic situation. It has a predominantly working-class, Labour-voting readership but its proprietor, Lord Mathews, is a committed Tory whose views are made well-known to its editors. One feels some sympathy with the *Star's* editor, Lloyd Turner, a journalist of considerable integrity, who has to walk this tightrope daily. If I were one of MORI's eight million don't-knows or undecideds, I suppose I might have telephoned the *Star's* "Election Desk" to seek guidance or clarification of the many complex political issues facing the electorate. As a matter of fact, I did just that yesterday. Pretending to be a South London builder, I rang 01-

Good for the ego and easier than argument

At election times it is especially tempting to accuse one's political opponents of false motives. It is easier than trying to convince by argument and much more satisfying to the ego. The temptation is much easier to resist if one is not actually trying to win a seat in the House of Commons. I have, therefore, come to the somewhat eccentric conclusion that Sir Geoffrey Howe and Mrs Thatcher state diametrically opposite views about the economy to my own because they actually believe them.

JUNE 24 '83
John Pardoe

They really do believe that there is nothing they can do about unemployment. I believe that there is a great deal. *The Times* appears to side with them more than with me, and, if the opinion polls are to be believed, rather too many British voters do too.

So let us try to disentangle the argument. First, however, I must underline the shifting sands of the Government's case. In her constituency last Thursday, Mrs Thatcher made a speech about unemployment in which she tried to define what caused it. "As the Western world sank into recession," she said, "unemployment rose rapidly everywhere. In some countries, such as Western Germany, it has risen faster than in Britain... The world recession hit this country harder because Britain was so notoriously inefficient."

Now hold on just a minute? Isn't there something wrong here? Rising unemployment is a symptom of world recession. It rises faster in inefficient countries than in efficient ones. It rose faster in Germany than in Britain. Therefore Britain must be more efficient than Germany. But we have all had it dimmed into our inefficient, lazybones heads that West Germany is much more efficient than Britain. So where does this lead us?

It is all very puzzling, and the time has come to try to unravel these mysteries. Perhaps the best place to start is the spring of 1929 and two *Times* editorials on the subject of the famous Liberal pamphlet *We Can Conquer Unemployment*.

"The facile architects of prosperity... will require more than a tendentious pamphlet to convince the public... Unemployment is too organic a disease to yield to a method of which the repercussions are quite uncertain." This

"vainglorious pamphlet" was written largely by Maynard Keynes. It was the start of one of the greatest intellectual debates of the twentieth century, and it is still going strong.

The whole argument, like the whole economy, can be encapsulated in one simple equation: $M \times V = P \times Q$. M stands for the money supply, V for the velocity of circulation, P for prices, and Q for output.

We all know that if we change one of the values on one side of an equation, we have to change one or both on the other side in order to balance the two sides. So if we reduce M then we must either change P or Q , or both. But we do not have to change one rather than the other, and it is perfectly possible to reduce one while actually increasing the other. For instance, the following equations all balance: $10 \times 6 = 3 \times 20$; $8 \times 6 = 4 \times 12$; $6 \times 6 = 4 \times 9$.

In spite of this obvious truth, the classical and monetarist economists make the most elementary school-boy howler. They assume that by changing one value on the left side of the equation, you will only change one value on the right. If you reduce the money supply, the equation will balance because prices will fall. It is clear, however, that it is possible to balance the equation by increasing prices and reducing output. Indeed, if it happened that a reduction in money supply actually caused output to fall then the equation could always be kept in balance even though prices were rising.

The monetarist answer to this possibility is that in the short term, a reduction in the money supply will reduce output, but that in the long term output will level off and only prices will fall. Keynes's answer to this was his famous remark: "In the long term, we are all dead."

So fascinating is this intellectual argument that there are probably some readers of *The Times* who will vote Conservative on June 9 solely to see this equation tested to destruction. It is certainly the only respectable reason I have yet heard for voting Conservative, but I shall resist it, nevertheless.

The author, Liberal MP for Cornwall North, 1966 to 1979, is a member of the Alliance campaign committee.

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Tomorrow: Jack Bruce-Gardyne

Philip Howard A square-eyed way to look at life



Square world: Detail from Picasso's "Three Figures under a Tree"

As a relief from the election, there is a case for going to look at *The Essential Cubism* at the Tate. It is a new way of looking at the world in the mind's eye, an improvement on the blinkered vision of the politicians. Though, now you come to mention it, Juan Gris's portrait of his mother, with gorgonizing eyes and chin like a bathing-rat, is a dead ringer for... but, stop! Philip, let us keep politics out of this basement column at least.

A mote it is to trouble the mind's eye. It is a traditional metaphor. Shakespeare uses it again in the next scene: "In my mind's eye, Horatio." In Plato's *Republic* there is "the soul's eye", which I forbear to give in Greek in order not to provoke the new technology. The mind's eye blinks in Aristotle, Cicero, Lucretius, Chaucer's *The Man of Law's Tale*, and *Ephesian's 18*: "the eyes of your minds". The *Authorized* has "the eyes of your understanding". Shakespeare himself develops the idea in *Sonnets 27* and 113: "Since I left you, mine eye is in my mind."

The metaphor has a particular potency for those of us who wear contact lenses, and accordingly sometimes walk about wearing, or looking as though we had exchanged our eyeballs for pealed litchis in syrup. Forgive us for cutting you in the street, friends, or for not catching your eye across a crowded room. We are not particularly absent-minded or introspective. It is just that we have a knobby mote in our right eye, and we are in a panic about whether we can blink it away. I got contact lenses in my eyes early, being a pioneer and fireman in the blinking business. The Black Watch would not allow its subalterns to wear spectacles on parade, on the grounds that spectacles looked incongruous with the kilt. This was an inadequate reason, since incongruity in the kilt was the element in which National Service officers lived, and moved, and had their being.

As a consequence I kept on losing my placard on the parade ground. Once they had marched him past me I could no longer see which foot to give the command on. While I hesitated, they had marched another twenty paces, out of my ken. The lenses were quite primitive. In those days, one was issued with a little red vacuum sucker like a miniature plumber's plunger for removing the things, and found it extraordinarily unnatural to apply the come to the dead centre of one's eye. One's cornea was scarred like the moon's surface with craters of intellectual and increasingly desperate stabs. When I first dared to go out to dinner wearing my new eyes, I found myself quite incapable of removing them after the port, and decided to sleep in them. At breakfast the next morning I depressed my hostess about the success of her party by sitting throughout with eyes tight shut, oozing pink tears.

Since then I have grown more accustomed to my lenses. We have been in some funny places together. I lost one down a lavatory in a Chinese restaurant in Berlin, kneeling to remove it in sudden agony, and alarming the proprietor by demanding that nobody should pull the chain until I came back with a eagle-eyed salvage party. I lost one while punting past Mappedurham on the Thames, and found it again, miraculously, under the floorboards just before we drifted sideways over the weir. In the former *Times* building at Brinkley House Square I had the whole newsroom staff helping me to look for a missing lens one Sunday morning, when the medical reporter found it by stepping on it with a sharp little kick.

To manage lenses successfully one should have small, neat fingers, and a systematic approach to life. Those of us with neither have to blunder by as best we can. They have got this new sort now, gas-permeable lenses, slightly softer, less likely to scratch, but still liable to shatter when stepped on by the medical reporter. I have paid my quinquennial visit to the lens-man, and still gone in for a pair. My irises are breathing air for the first time for more than 20 years. I can see things from miles away. This summer I shall definitely attempt the lute cut again. Just trope me no metaphors about motes so trouble the mind's eye, that's all. *At times my eyes are lenses through which my brain explores constellations of light. I advise princes to the corridors into the wind, do not envy me.*



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IT TAKES TWO TO ARGUE

Even at the height of a general election campaign the thrust of Labour's political argument is directed upon itself. For three years the party has been in a state of unresolved tension on major policy issues while factions have struggled to impose their grip and their views. Mr Michael Foot as leader of widest acceptability across the party has conferred a kind of peace upon it, but his political talents have led not to the settlement of issues but to the containment of the quarrel surrounding them.

The long statement of party policy put together last year was agreed at the cost of the inclusion of inconsistencies, contradictions and obfuscations. The normal process of weeding out and making choices for a manifesto to put before the electorate was omitted, and the whole ragbag was simply upgraded to manifesto status. The liturgical function of the manifesto is thereby much reduced. There is an absence of carefully honed texts to which all can appeal and all must appear to be bound. Instead there is a choice of partial texts and implied width of interpretation. In the heat of the campaign the manifesto has become a subject of strife when it should be a means of preserving the appearance of unity of purpose.

The breakdown has come apropos the extent of the party's commitment to unilateral nuclear disarmament. The party's multilateral disarmers have chosen to exploit the licence of interpretation afforded by the manifesto to put their own stamp on party policy in the course of the campaign, emboldened doubtless by the knowledge that the party's unilateralist tendency has been losing its popular support. Mr Foot's

attempt to establish a new definition of policy at full gallop was scuppered by his predecessor the same night. Mr Callaghan, with the full weight of his authority, pressed home the folly of scrapping Britain's independent nuclear deterrent without securing an adequate return from the Soviet Union, and he did so without reference to the manifesto.

From this sharp dispute on what is arguably the most important issue raised at the general election Labour's whole campaign could begin quickly to unravel. The party, with its present leadership and divisions, would be seen to be unelectable. Then, according to Dr Owen's wishful thinking, anti-Tory voters would flock to the standard of the Liberal-SDP Alliance to the sound of the breaking of the mould. Just as likely would be massive abstentions. Either way the Conservatives would be moving towards the landslide at the prospect of which Mrs Thatcher rejoices and Mr Pym politely shudders.

Herein perhaps lies Labour's last chance. Many who would like or contemplate with equanimity a second term for Mrs Thatcher's government may be distinctly uneasy at the prospect of Tory triumphalism, all opposition routed. So far Labour has been conspicuously unsuccessful at redirecting attention from its own unpreparedness for government to the implications of that result. Yet for the left, there should be plenty of ground for hostile exploration. Why is it that the Prime Minister, who less than six months ago was boasting of a government still bubbling with ideas, and who let it be known that if, as was unlikely, she went to the country early it would be to seek a fresh

mandate for another slice of the radical reformation of Britain, now puts before the electors a manifesto which if it had a title at all should be called *Steady as She Goes?* Have all the bubbles burst? Or are the new brews kept carefully corked up and out of sight?

The Conservative manifesto is programmatic only in the section on trade union reform, which Mr Tebbit has further pointed up. Other touches of detail have since been vouchsafed, like the year and month for hauling down the flag at County Hall in London. There are large areas of policy however of which it is known that the Government has rightly called for radical reassessment, including education, the health service, benefits, local taxation. What is the fruit, if any, of these labours? Or does that depend upon the result of the election and the size of the parliamentary majority? Surely the Thatcher radicalism has not run out of steam.

If Labour is to make an edifying argument of the election in the two weeks that remain, it will have to rebound from the defensive. There is an initiative awaiting it if it can impale ministers on the dilemma of their own reticence. What would they do with their power in respect of these everyday matters? Apart from defence and unemployment there remain large areas of government activity which are part of the framework of common life. A general election campaign is supposed to enable the electorate to listen to a broad based argument encompassing all aspects of policy which they might expect of a government. The voters have not yet been provided with that service.

FLY ME, I'M PEOPLE

Faced with the brash tactics of People Express, the airline which offers to fly you to New York for scarcely more than the price of a second-class railway return from London to Inverness, the Government had little choice but to grin and capitulate. In the middle of an election where it represents the cause of free competition and the play of market forces, it could scarcely be seen to throw its weight on the side of the price-fixers and cartels. Not at least, under so bright a limelight and with so many voters already having reserved their places.

There is a distinct flavour of the bounce about People Express's coup, and the Board of Trade is not fond of being bounced; the new development is anything but helpful to the project of building up British Airways from a precariously regained profitability to the point where it could be launched into the private sector. But the Government has endorsed the cause of free enterprise in the air, even if decidedly more wholeheartedly in Europe than over the Atlantic. Now of all times it could not afford to appear to be

compromising its principles. Since the empire of Sir Freddie Laker overreached itself and collapsed last year, Atlantic air fares have risen by about 30 per cent. The regular single fare for the route where People Express proposes to charge £99 is now £210. The immediate impact of this sharp undercutting is limited, because the permission only applies to five flights a week, twentieth of the market. Only if other carriers seek to follow would there be the likelihood of an immediate full-scale price war. But the permission can be renegotiated in two years' time, and the pressure towards lower prices is likely to grow.

There is an element of opportunism in the new airline's approach. With world business only just beginning to recover from a disastrous drop in traffic, unemployed jumbo jets can be hired for a song, giving a newcomer an advantage over airlines which bought their planes new. By undercutting regular operators on the most profitable routes, it makes it more difficult for them to provide services on less popular

routes, partly subsidised by Atlantic earnings. Even in the United States, where President Carter instituted a fares-free-for-all, some services to otherwise inaccessible places are still supported with public money.

But while some passengers lose from deregulation, the majority gain. In Europe, the network of bilateral agreements which govern air fares acts very much more to the advantage of operators than of customers, giving rise to prices which can work out at as much as four or five times as high per mile as comparable internal flights in the United States. In addition, People Express has brought down its prices by a refreshing flexibility in the use of manpower, and abandonment of the pleasant but strictly superfluous accretions like free meals and drinks in flight which regular operators compete to provide on a gradually increasing scale. No suspicion attaches to it of cutting costs by skipping on safety margins. Whatever the embarrassments for vested interests, this new initiative to restore true competitiveness to the airways deserves to prosper and spread.

THE SAKHAROV CASE

World opinion has often condemned the persecution of Andrei Sakharov, the distinguished scientist and Nobel laureate. But it is occasionally argued that under a more ruthless dictatorship than now exists in the Soviet Union he would be lucky to be alive. Does Sakharov receive more publicity than he deserves?

We are told how he lives in exile in Gorky, cut off from contacts with the outside world. He and his wife suffer daily harassment by KGB thugs. Because it is claimed that he is still in possession of state secrets, he has been refused permission to leave the USSR. Although he has suffered two heart attacks he is denied treatment under his own doctors in the Academy of Sciences clinic in Moscow.

Yet all this seems persecution of a relatively mild nature. Under Stalin their fate would have been much worse, and even today other opponents of the regime are treated less kindly. Only last week Leonid Borodin was sentenced to ten years in a labour camp plus five years' internal exile for "distributing writings discrediting the Soviet state and passing to the West by illegal channels his own slanderous works".

The USSR is a superpower determined to spread its political and social system throughout the world, and this, its leaders claim, is for the good of all mankind. Domestic and international laws are freely adapted to this end. Dr Sakharov's exile to Gorky is illegal, but the interests of the men in the Kremlin are above even the flexible Soviet law. They are bitterly offended by Sakharov's defection from the privileged elite, a position he had gained for his unique contribution to Soviet nuclear might.

When a man of Sakharov's intellectual and moral stature rejects the theory and practice of Soviet communism, abandoning the comfortable life of the upper crust for the discomforts and unknown dangers of opposition, the clouds of self-satisfaction and sycophancy surrounding the men in the Kremlin are dispelled, and for a moment they see themselves as others see them: the beneficiaries of Stalin's mass murders, with nothing to offer the world but chains.

This explains the bitterness with which Sakharov is denounced by the regime. President Reagan declared last Saturday "Andrei Sakharov Day" to

mark the Russian's sixty-second birthday. *Pravda* attacked this as interference in Soviet internal affairs and called Sakharov a "servant of American imperialism", throwing in for good measure that in the United States "negroes and the representatives of other minorities demonstrating for their freedom are shot down in the streets".

The Soviet leaders cannot resort to full-scale Stalinist repression; under Stalin even party members were a high-risk category. Moreover, a modern economy requires some degree of freedom and initiative. The USSR needs trade with the West and cannot afford to outrage public opinion, too flagrantly.

So Andrei Sakharov survives as a symbol of hope. A member of the ruling elite who demands an end to Soviet expansionism and works for democracy and human rights in the USSR may set an example for others to follow. He has already inspired hundreds of dissidents and others are coming forward to replace those imprisoned. Sakharov stands for peace with decency; it is what the West wants, and it is what the peoples of the USSR want too. He deserves every possible support.

'Tag' monitors

From Mr Ian J. Linn
Sir, I use radio tags for tracking wild animals, for which purpose they are excellent. Some time ago I was approached by an administrator from a local mental hospital, who was worried about the fact that patients allowed out alone for walks sometimes wandered off and got lost, with consequent hazards to their welfare. He wondered whether

a radio tag might help him to find such lost patients. I replied that it very well might, and offered the names of suppliers who would supply transmitters at about £30 each, pretunable multi-channel receivers at about £600 each, and aerial systems at prices which would depend on complexity. When he heard what the cost would be, he abandoned the idea at once, convinced that sums of that

order would not be available for these purposes. I was rather sad that the National Health Service could not find funds to try out this simple, humane idea. Yours faithfully, IAN LINN, University of Exeter, Department of Biological Sciences, Higher Laboratory, Prince of Wales Road, Exeter, Devon.

Nalگوism and the council image

From Sir John Grugeon
Sir, As a long-time advocate of an additional local tax, whether a poll tax or a local income tax, I found much to applaud in your editorial of May 24 (Rates in decline). Such a move offers the best hope of strengthening at the same time both local authorities' autonomy and their accountability.

However, I would also wish to put the record straight on a couple of matters. Nalگوism may be a disease that afflicts some authorities, but most councils are run by elected members who take a responsible and balanced view of the legitimate interests of all parties: the Government, the ratepayers, the local business community, the service users and their employees. The irresponsible actions of the minority should not be allowed to obscure this truth.

Extending the point further, concentration on the vices of the ruling groups in the GLC and the metropolitan counties has tended to stress the virtues of the majority of councils, and the balance needs to be redressed. Government spokesmen have pointed out that if it were not for a handful of Labour-controlled authorities local government would be virtually in line with the Government target. The GLC alone has nearly doubled its expenditure in the last two years, whilst the non-metropolitan counties have generally continued to cut spending, as they have been doing for the last four or five years.

Let us ensure that the institution of local government is not tarred with the same brush as Mr Livingstone. Yours faithfully, JOHN GRUGEON, Members' Suite, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent.

From the Chairman of the City of London Ratepayers' Association
Sir, Professor Glass (May 24) misses the point. It is not because we see the GLC as permanently Labour dominated that we want it abolished. The next GLC election, post-Livingstone, if there is one, would give Conservatives a massive victory.

What has prompted such a massive demand in London from Conservatives and many others for abolition of the GLC is recognition that it is unnecessary, extremely expensive, and destructive of businesses and jobs.

Admittedly every four years or so under Labour it gets much worse, the latest administration being the last straw in turning people all over London into GLC haters.

The proposed abolition of the GLC is not, as Professor Glass says, the result of an edict from above. It is in response to an enormous ground-swell of public opinion. So many of us have badgered our Members of Parliament and senior government ministers that they had no alternative but to include GLC abolition in the manifesto. My forecast is that the inclusion of this item in the Conservative manifesto will result in many more votes being cast for Conservatives in Greater London than would otherwise have been the case.

Yours faithfully, C. DOUGLAS WOODWARD, Chairman, City of London Ratepayers' Association, 404 Gilbert House, Barbican, EC2, May 25.

Health hazard from gas

From the Director of the Association for the Conservation of Energy
Sir, It would be unfortunate were Baron Phillips's article (May 23), concerning the potential health hazards accruing from too large a concentration of the gas radon to cause anyone to desert from installing sensible energy conservation measures in their homes until the National Radiological Protection Board complete their work in two years time.

Nobody responsible would seek to deny the importance of establishing as precisely as one can what potential damage over-exposure to radon can do. However, the Protection Board have already published their view upon the relatively small comparative risk of death from lung cancer via radon. Indeed in a recent editorial in their magazine *Radiological Protection Bulletin*, they concluded: "Householders should not in general be deterred from reducing ventilation to save energy merely because of the increase in exposure to radon that will follow. Present indications are that the levels in ordinary dwellings throughout the country that are conservatively but comfortably ventilated will not entail an appreciable risk. The householder may also wish to conserve energy and increase comfort by insulating the fabric of the dwelling."

I am not aware of any direct evidence of increased deaths from lung cancer in the UK owing to excess natural radon indoors.

I am however aware that there are an estimated 700,000 pensioners at risk from hypothermia via under-heating. Who knows for instance how many extra people may quite literally die from the cold as a result of being deterred from installing energy saving measures due to unnecessary fears?

Yours faithfully, ANDREW WARREN, Director, Association for the Conservation of Energy, 9 Sherlock Mews, W1, May 23.

Path to communism

From Mr Raymond Blackburn
Sir, Solzhenitsyn, whom I greatly admire, has not done himself justice in the interview he gave (May 23). Thus he states "Khrushchev wasn't listened to either". His best-seller *I Chose Freedom* was published in 1947. About the same time its message was confirmed by events in Europe, particularly the judicial murder of Masaryk, the suicide or murder of Masaryk and the destruction of the opposition in Poland. This led to the Marshall Plan and to the creation of Khrushchev had had some influence.

Again, Solzhenitsyn says that socialism must lead to communism. He cannot believe that of socialists like Lenin or Mitterand. The words are too vague. Baldwin said "We are all socialists now". Moreover the earliest Christian church was communist as are some religious orders. This prophesy is more helpful than the prophesy of war. If he means a small war he is stating the obvious. If he means a great war he is being as alarmist as the more extreme advocates of unilateral disarmament.

Planning gain

From Mr Lucas Mellinger
Sir, When Mr Purton, chairman of the Law Society's planning law and land development committee, wrote to you on May 10 (published May 14) about the inadmissibility of "planning gain" requirements by planning authorities, he presumably was unaware of the judgment delivered the previous day by Mr Justice Forbes (Westminster Remands Ltd v Secretary of State and Another) as reported by you on May 13. Lordship ruled, could justly the grant of permission, but failure to provide such gain could not be a ground for a refusal.

In his Lordship's judgment it appears that planning gains are statutory improvements to be effected by the local authority. But the common meaning of "planning gain" is by no means so confined. It identifies development benefiting - in the opinion of the planning authority - the public at large rather than the narrow interests of the developer. For instance, some housing within a site proposed for more profitable office use might be considered a planning gain.

It is a confusing paradox built into our planning system that, whilst conditional covenants and refusals need to be justified by "reasons", the planning authority's decision, i.e. that of its key-committee, is in fact - and at its best - largely a subjective value judgment which cannot be legitimized by pseudo-scientific rationalization.

In these wider terms it is, of course, to be hoped that all

development will afford planning gain. Yours faithfully, LUCAS MELLINGER, Richmond, Surrey.

Judicial change

From Mr Roy D. Roebuck
Sir, In his third Hamlyn lecture, reported on May 19, the Lord Chancellor mentioned the difficulties resulting from judges heading inquiries with a political flavour. These could be overcome by inviting judges from Commonwealth common law countries, to perform such duties.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant, ROY ROEBUCK, 5 Pump Court, Temple, EC4, May 20.

Shooting to eat

From Mr Guy Rogers
Sir, As a dedicated conservationist and shooting man, I am amazed to see the fuss made in your columns about eating various non-carnivorous mammals and birds.

I personally shoot nothing which I do not eat, with the exception of rats, although I understand some Third World people eat these regularly. However, I can heartily recommend starting breakfasts, lightly fried in garlic butter, as an excellent appetizer.

Yours faithfully, GUY ROGERS, University Museum, Parks Road, Oxford.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Tories and the 'north-south' divide

From the Leader of Sheffield City Council
Sir, The result of the General Election on June 9 might well decide whether we continue to have a United Kingdom with a central government obtaining sufficient consent across the nation to maintain acceptable and stable authority in all parts of the country.

Whatever gains the Conservatives may make in increasing their vote in Scotland, it is universally accepted that the massive Labour dominance in that part of the United Kingdom will continue. The most deprived parts of Wales, hardest hit by the enormous drop in manufacturing output, industrial investment, and mass unemployment, will continue to return Labour candidates.

Vast areas of the north of England including the major inner city population zones, will see the Conservative vote decimated. At the same time the relatively affluent south and the vast areas of London outside the hard-hit inner boroughs, could join with part of the Midlands in giving Margaret Thatcher a mandate to strike hard at her opponents.

The "north-south split" has been raised before, but never have those living in the north of England experienced such indifference and hostility not only from the leaders of the Conservative Party but from large sections of the population of what is supposedly "one nation".

The intolerance towards local councils and their electorates who

have taken a different political stance to that of Mrs Thatcher and her colleagues, which is further reinforced in the Conservative manifesto, displays a vicious tendency towards opponents in the most hard hit parts of Great Britain, which can only serve to divide our country. It is therefore necessary to make it clear not only to Conservative politicians but also to large parts of the apparently unconcerned electorate who have felt none of the consequences of recession and unemployment, that the still proud people of our large industrial cities will not simply lie down and be trampled into the ground in the event of a Tory victory.

Large sections of the population will be alienated from and irrelevant to the plans of Mrs Thatcher. It will therefore be unavoidable for political leaders in those areas of the country hardest hit by Conservative policies, and out of sight and mind, take the lead in putting forward voters in the "commuter belt" to demand for the maximum separation from a central government disconnected in every way from their lives. Those who have the privilege of leading large and powerful communities will have to take whatever steps are necessary to protect the lives and well being of their people.

Yours faithfully, D. BLUNKETT, Leader, Sheffield City Council, Town Hall, Sheffield.

Art treasure thefts

From the Director-General of the National Trust
Sir, I am grateful to Mr Mark Tennant for his questions (May 24). The National Trust is in the same position as the national museums in the matter of insurance. It would not, and could not replace a stolen or destroyed object collected in the past by a member of the family who used to own a historic house. It does not therefore insure its own possessions against loss but is fully covered for repairable damage.

It is not the National Trust's policy to offer rewards, and there

has of course never been any question of ransom. However, in the aftermath of the recent burglary at Waddesdon Manor of very well-known objects, it has been agreed on the advice of the police, that a reward should be offered, subject to the usual conditions, for information leading to recovery of the stolen articles. This will be given through the Waddesdon Trust and will not come from the resources of the National Trust.

Yours faithfully, J. D. BOLES, Director-General, The National Trust, 42 Queen Anne's Gate, SW1, May 25.

Saving parish records

From the Reverend D. Bruce Kingston
Sir, Having just piloted through the four parochial church councils of my united benefice the necessary agreements to place their ancient records in the care of the county archives, it was with some interest that I read Mr Hugh Peskett's letter, "Caring homes for parish records" (May 19).

Along with many clergy, I am glad to be relieved of the twin burdens of the responsibility for old documents and of having to oversee parish records. Mr Peskett quite rightly indicates that search fees are of no personal benefit to the clergyman.

However, I believe you, writer, perhaps as a result of his own commercial interest in these records, has overlooked the substance of the main objections to the 1978 measure. These, I believe, fall into two closely linked categories and have nothing to do with the individual person, who is just a passing figure in parochial history.

The first category of objections arises from the fact that these are parish records, containing within their pages the whole spectrum of parish life through the ages - something that is very important to the ongoing life of the community, especially in a village.

Mr Peskett states in his letter, "we were seeking only careful custody and were against divorcing records too much from their local context". It is to be said that this is exactly what has happened. The records are now in a central office, certainly well cared for, certainly convenient for researchers, but well and truly severed from their roots in the parishes.

The second category of objections is more personal to the objects, and perhaps more fundamental. Many of the names in our ancient registers are of families which have been in the villages for hundreds of years and are still there. In other words, the registers in particular contain personal records of their own family history.

When these were in the custody of the clergyman, there was at least some filter to discourage the curious and the perpetrator of heresy. Now the records are freely available to all and sundry, whether it be to the genuine seeker after his family's

history, or whether it be to those, such as the Mormons, who seek to "baptize" some long-gone person into a religion that might have been foreign and repugnant to him.

All in all, the requirements of the 1978 measure are good, since its aim is the preservation of records, but Mr Peskett would do well to remember that the real and important objections to it are parochial, not clerical.

Yours faithfully, D. BRUCE KINGSTON, The Rectory, Braishfield, Romsey, Hampshire.

Unwanted books

From Mr Sidney Gabriel
Sir, Among the activities of this committee in its efforts to ameliorate the sufferings of our Jewish colleagues in the Soviet Union is the despatch of books and technical magazines. During the preceding six months we sent 156 books, trying to select the most innocuous in order not to offend the Russian authorities. Despite this, only five were actually delivered. Among those confiscated was a history of Ilford, Essex and a textbook conjugating Hebrew verbs.

The Russian authorities returned the June, 1982 edition of *The Brick Bulletin* published by The Brick Development Association on the grounds that it was in contravention of their internal regulations.

In recent times, the already scant contact with our persecuted Jewish colleagues in the Soviet Union has been virtually reduced to nil. The iron curtain which had been lifted for a short while is fast descending once again.

Yours faithfully, S. GABRIEL, Chairman, Architects and Engineers Committee for the release of Soviet Jewry, 48 Kensington Gardens, Ilford, Essex.

Honest money

From Professor D. R. Myddelton
Sir, Currency debasement damages society, and your leading article (May 21) was right to say that rising prices are not just an abstraction to be argued about by experts. Nevertheless, persistent inflation does cause complex problems for financial accounting in a sophisticated economy.

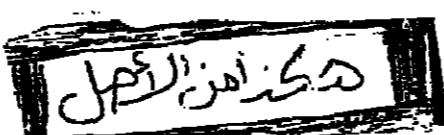
The technical issue is which of several possible solutions is preferable. Even more important, however, is who chooses which solution is best. It is deplorable that on this point the professional accounting bodies have abdicated their independence and continue to accept political instructions about how to account for inflation.

Yours faithfully, D. R. MYDDELTON, Cranfield School of Management, Cranfield, Bedfordshire.

Return to quality

From Mr Philip Warner
Sir, Should Mr Matthews (May 23) return to enjoy the BBC or remain an expatriate to enjoy it at its best, on the World Service?

Yours faithfully, PHILIP WARNER, POB 7272, Lagos, Nigeria.



A SPECIAL REPORT

London Business School

Founded in 1965, the school is an autonomous institution within the University of London. This report marks the opening by Prince Charles yesterday of the Plowden building, which houses the school's five research institutes. Anthony Hilton, City Editor, reports



Prince Charles opening the London Business School's Plowden Building yesterday, with (right) Professor Jim Ball, Principal of the School.

The British educational system may have been first rate at producing administrators for an Empire, and is still quite good at grooming for the professions and the Civil Service, but it has not done so well at equipping the nation to fight in the international economic war. The result, at least in the mind of Professor Jim Ball, Principal of the London Business School is there for all to see. While Germany and Japan place heavy emphasis at undergraduate level on preparing their young people for a future in management development, in Britain even now, with evidence of industrial decline and lack of competitiveness evident on all sides, there is still considerable scepticism about the need for and usefulness of management education. This is naturally something Professor Ball finds hard to take, though it no longer costs him the night's sleep it used to when he was younger. Having been with the London Business School since its founding in 1965, the last 13 years as Principal he has become accustomed to the knocks and has the requisite ready. People might snipe at "management education", he says, "but they find it harder to dispute the need to educate managers." Nor is it particularly helpful to talk about management education as if it were just one product. The LBS facilities are

quite different from those provided in other universities, public sector institutions like polytechnics, or the private sector product available at colleges like Henley and Ashridge. And while it is probably fair to question not whether all these courses benefit the student, but certainly whether if they were concentrated in a few centres rather than spread thin, there is little doubt that the LBS has carved for itself a place in the world's top ten of such institutions. It has not been easy. Nor for that matter has it been achieved by mindlessly following the recommendations of Lord Franks in the mid 1960's, when he advocated the creation of two "centres of excellence" to provide management education. That report said the college should provide a 12 month course leading to a postgraduate degree in management in tandem with long courses of up to 20 weeks to be attended by middle managers on leave from their companies. There was, says Professor Ball, no thought given to research, with the result that companies came to see the LBS as a sausage machine for middle management. The Professor and his colleagues basically rejected the Franks' concepts from the start, but this led to trouble in the

early 1970's, when the penny dropped in both industry and academic circles that the school was not doing quite what was expected of it. "We felt from the beginning that we had to have one basic course which would be on a par with the best that the leading American schools could offer," Professor Ball said. That meant the creation of a two year post graduate course leading to a masters degree. But it also meant that the students had to finance themselves because they would be too young to be financed by companies. "We did not ask companies to pay; but we did ask them to recruit the finished product," he says. "We relied on pull-through, not push-through." The idea of 20-week courses also failed the practical test. "It was too long," says Professor Ball. "So it was replaced by shorter programmes of six to ten weeks." Finally, to attract staff to build the reputation of the school, and to make a worthwhile contribution to the development of management thinking, the school devoted resources to research. Professor Ball took over at a difficult time, when the honeymoon was over. Neither party, academic nor industry, was

totally committed to make the marriage work. So from the start he tried to mend his fences with industry. This was coupled in the years that followed with the development of still more courses aimed at attracting managers for short breaks away from their offices, and reducing the dependence on overlong programmes. In the mid-Seventies this was taken a stage further with the launch of what is now one of the most popular products, the creation of 'bespoke' courses - programmes designed for a group of executives from a specific company and unique to them. Under Professor Ball's leadership there has also been a considerable expansion of the research programme. It now covers five areas, finances and accounting; economic forecasting; small business; public sector management; and business strategy, and absorbs roughly £1m of the school's £5m annual budget. But it is one of the most recent initiatives - the launching of a part-time masters degree - which gives Professor Ball most pleasure. The first 60 students are now well into their first year of what will be a three-year course. "Education can be very divisive," he explains. "One of the worst things we do in this country is educate civil servants in one place, managers in

another. We send them to specific colleges with their colleagues, and instead of being broadened out they become even narrower in their focus." Hence his high hopes for the new course. By making it part-time he hopes, and so far has succeeded, in attracting a mix of both public and private sector students, civil servants, professionals and industrialists. None of this has been easy, for the school has to pay much of its own way, with Government grants meeting just two fifths of its costs. The recession has dented student numbers, though things have recently begun to pick up while the intake of overseas students was hit by cutbacks in grants available to them. But again this has shown signs of improvement. It is a considerable achievement, therefore, for Professor Ball to be able to run what is now a £5m a year business at a profit and, as he says, it is a vindication from the marketplace that the LBS is providing something that industry needs. It still comes as a surprise, however, to learn just how small the operation is. The teaching staff is just 40, a figure made even more absurd by comparison with the 120 staff in the management and business studies department of the Central London Polytechnic, and the Alumnus Association is only some 3,000 strong. This

may be misleading in that students on short courses are not eligible to join, but the fact remains that the niggardly Government financing means the school basically turns out about the same number of graduates annually as it did when it began. Other things have most certainly changed, however. "When the school started and economic growth was being taken for granted, students basically wanted to be taught how to get round the Monopoly board faster than anyone else, and avoid landing on Mayfair and Park Lane", Professor Ball says. Now there is much less optimism. "Now they come to ask whether the game is still Monopoly, and if it isn't what game should they be playing?" he says. The emphasis on techniques has been replaced at least in part by concentration on issues and strategies. As a result, the LBS student today benefits not so much because he acquires specific skills, but rather from an increased confidence, increased awareness of priorities, and a greater ability not just to see the answers, but to know what the questions are. And long may it continue, for as Professor Ball says: "The mess in Britain was not caused by clever people, but by dull people with not enough imagination."



Professor Peter Moore: 'We were bursting at the seams'

Getting the right style at Plowden

The London Business School's new Plowden Building was formally opened by The Prince of Wales yesterday May 26. On the inside there is the calm of academic life with lecture theatres, seminar rooms and an audio-visual and TV centre; on the outside there is a mixture of shops, a wine bar and pub. The venture between the school and Grand Metropolitan, no doubt applying classroom theories to the harsh realities of the commercial world. The London Business School even has a stake in the pub at the end of its Park Road property. The school is the landlord and is about to embark on rent review negotiations. In many ways the £4.2m Plowden Building marks the culmination of six years of planning and construction, which is designed to push the LBS into the forefront of world business teaching. Like another commercial property company, the LBS discovered the problems inherent in trying to tackle a major redevelopment in a historic part of London. Planners can be difficult at the best of times, and the school

discovered that they give no quarter to academic institutions. Development began with tearing down the original terrace and the architects, Westwood Piet Poole & Smart, had the delicate job of creating an exterior which embodied the original design. This included constructing almost 20 dummy chimney stacks to help satisfy the planner's sense of history. The building now forms the western extremity of a 5½ acre site in Sussex Place, on the edge of Regents Park, which the LBS bought from the Crown Commissioners on a 99-year lease in 1967. Plowden is far from the school's original premises, which were in a group of offices in Northumberland Avenue. This was the school's home for the first five years of its life from its inception in 1965. Work finally got under way on the Park Road development in February 1981, when the contractors, WS Try, began demolishing the dilapidated terrace of Georgian houses. It was topped out just over a year later by Lady Plowden. The building is named after Lord Continued on page 16

'NatWest congratulates London Business School on the opening of the new Plowden Building and wishes the School continued success...'

 National Westminister Bank

The Americans are coming - to learn

Perhaps the greatest unsung achievement of the London Business School is that the Americans are coming, not to tell the British how to run the place, but to see what they can learn to improve the programmes they offer back home.

Things have changed in the near 17 years of the school's existence, but that simple fact is highly significant. It means not just that the London Business School has gained international recognition, but that business education is now seen as an international not a national or American discipline.

This means, in turn, that the popular image of business schools is now even more at odds with reality than it once was. The belief that they taught management as a science responsive to rules and formulae has gone with the realization that economic growth can no longer be taken for granted. There is no longer a belief in an American management formula with a universal application and relevance, no matter where in the world it is applied.

Actually, there never really was such a formula, but techniques certainly were more heavily emphasized in the past than they are, say one of the LBS's senior staff, Professor John Stopford, the academic dean. "Management education did not exist in this country 20 years ago, so the founders of this school had to learn as they went along," he says. "But it has matured and gained in confidence tremendously in the last 10 years. Today we do not retreat behind technique. We talk about issues from experience. The school's self-confidence greatly improves the value of the education it gives."

Because business schools operate in such a dynamic area, they have to develop along with the art itself. This puts a premium, which the Americans have now recognized, on watching closely what all the schools round the world are doing, liaising with them and learning from them.

In the LBS's case, the links are strongest with the United States. Many of the staff have studied or taught there, and the school has a raft of agreements under which it exchanges staff and students for a few months at a time, to give them a grounding in an alternative culture.

But the programme is far more wide ranging than that. According to Professor Stopford, the school has close links with France, particularly with INSEAD, the famous French business school, and similar institutions in most Western European countries. In some of these the flow of information is one way; in others it is a two way process. But in all cases it is valuable.

Professor Stopford gives Spain as a typical example of a one-way flow. The LBS has a joint venture with a business school in Madrid, under which they get our technology, we get their culture. "The technology is the basic teaching skill - how to teach marketing. The culture is the opportunity to send some of each year's student intake to that country (or any of the dozens of others where similar links have been forged) to give the students exposure to the language, a heavy dose of a different philosophy of life and business, and an opportunity to see at first hand how companies operate in a different country.

"The great benefit for the students is that it creates awareness. It opens their minds and modifies their behaviour," says Professor Stopford.

Another aspect of the growing international awareness has been to focus on the shortcomings of earlier management teaching. Too much of the earlier theory was culture free - meaning that it took no account of the environment in which the manager operated - and therefore had only a limited effectiveness.

"There is no such thing as a universal way of looking at management," Professor Stopford says, "but there is an international base of techniques. There are rules of analysis, which apply in most countries, which give you a feel for the basic problems of a business and the way it could develop. But there is no core of answers to these problems which can apply internationally."

He is equally critical, too, of the tendency to ignore government. "Once you operate internationally, you have to take into account the behaviour of government, rather than stick your head in the sand and pretend it does not exist and does not interfere," he says. One of the keys to better management, he believes, is developing managerial awareness of politics and how politicians are likely to behave.

In all this, he and his colleagues have been helped by the LBS policy, which from the beginning has sought to attract a high proportion - often up to 30 per cent - of students from overseas.

Obviously the students benefit from learning with people from quite different backgrounds," Professor Stopford says, but it also helps keep the staff on their toes. "If we tried to teach too much about industrial relations in Britain, then the overseas students justifiably protest that such specific knowledge is of limited value. It is useful because, although that area has to be part of the curriculum, the protests remind even the staff that they do not serve the students best by being obsessed by the problems of Britain."

Anthony Hilton

Getting an international dimension

A short course abroad is not enough to make a student internationally aware, any more than a day trip to Boulogne produces a bouquet of Franco-philie. Rather the internationalism which has become a hallmark of the LBS has been created by the staff and students, bringing the world to the classrooms off Regent's Park. "The aim is to give each subject an international dimension," says Stopford. "Ultimately, we are trying to develop effective competitive behaviour. So we question British competitiveness in world markets, to see, not how to succeed in Little England, but in the global economy. We are searching for better ways to ask the questions and view the problems, and to do that we need a map of the world, not a plan of Birmingham."

It is because business is now worldwide that Professor Stopford has resisted the creation of an "international business" study area. Rather all subjects have to have appropriate doses of internationalism.

In doing this Professor Stopford is reflecting the world today. The front pages report new steel plants in Korea, and prime ministers negotiate for new car plants from Japan. And what happens at the other end of the earth can have a dramatic and often fatal impact on a British business caught off guard. So, says Professor Stopford, the international awareness in courses will have to become greater still.

The underlying principle is to look at the world and liberally understand Britain better. "If we teach marketing in France, the aim is not to create an expert who can cover the Loire in widgets. Rather it is to make the businessman aware of how marketing works in France, and from that knowledge to look with new eyes at things he has always taken for granted there. He learns another way of doing things. It may not be applicable to the United Kingdom because of differences in cultures - something which admirers of Japanese techniques often overlook - but it has relevance."

The Electricity Council, England and Wales

MSF 58

Peter Gorb, head of the new design management unit, and John Stopford, academic head

New Plowden

Continued from page 15

Plowden, who was the school's first chairman of governors from 1965 to 1975.

From inside the "quadrangle" which has now been formed by the Plowden Building, the brickwork matches the rest of the school, and at ground level an arched colonnade links it to the original school block. The designers have tried to create, with some success, the effect of a cloister.

The real purpose of Plowden is to provide badly needed extra facilities. The block has a 60-seat lecture theatre (the Wolfson), three large and eight smaller seminar rooms, a large informal teaching and reception room named the Fairbairn Room, and office accommodation for 74 teaching, research and administrative staff.

Development work on the Plowden Building allowed the LBS to develop a set of studios to a high specification offering students a full range of audio visual and television facilities. In the Pocock Studio, work on the facilities had to be delayed until the building was completed. It is now fully operational and the school has started running week-long negotiating courses for middle management. The seminars are filmed.

Such equipment allows the school to help familiarize its students with the art of "playing to the cameras", and helps them to develop techniques which may become extremely useful later in business life.

Completion of the Plowden Building has allowed the LBS to rehouse and expand its important research departments whose work has become an established factor in business and economic decision taking in this country. The school realized a long time ago the importance of creating the right atmosphere for its research section which, apart from giving the LBS prestige on a worldwide basis, provides a very necessary source of income.

Although the LBS and its sister institution, the Manchester Business School were founded on the direction of the government, money is not quite so forthcoming from Westminster. The money which was needed to pay for the Plowden Building was raised through 120 corporate donations, together with the school's own financial resources.

Professor Peter Moore, the deputy principal, says: "Before the Plowden Building was completed, we were literally bursting at the seams. Its construction allows us to increase our student intake by 40 per cent."

Today there are between 450 and 500 students, compared with just over 300 in the pre-Plowden days.

A certain amount of limited construction is still underway on two small blocks on either side of the new building. Work on the five houses to the north of the block should be completed soon and the renovated properties will provide 28 study bedrooms for executive students.

The final phase of work covers the three listed white houses at the other end of the Plowden Building which is also expected to be completed soon.

It will not be long before all the work is completed and the whole terrace will be fully functional. All that will remain will be to let the remaining 10 shop units on the outside ground floor level. Then the school will not only be teaching but also earning money for itself in the true spirit of free enterprise.

If the success of The Boaters wine bar is anything to judge, then the school will have little difficulty in transforming classroom principles to solid business expertise.

Baron Phillips
Property Correspondent

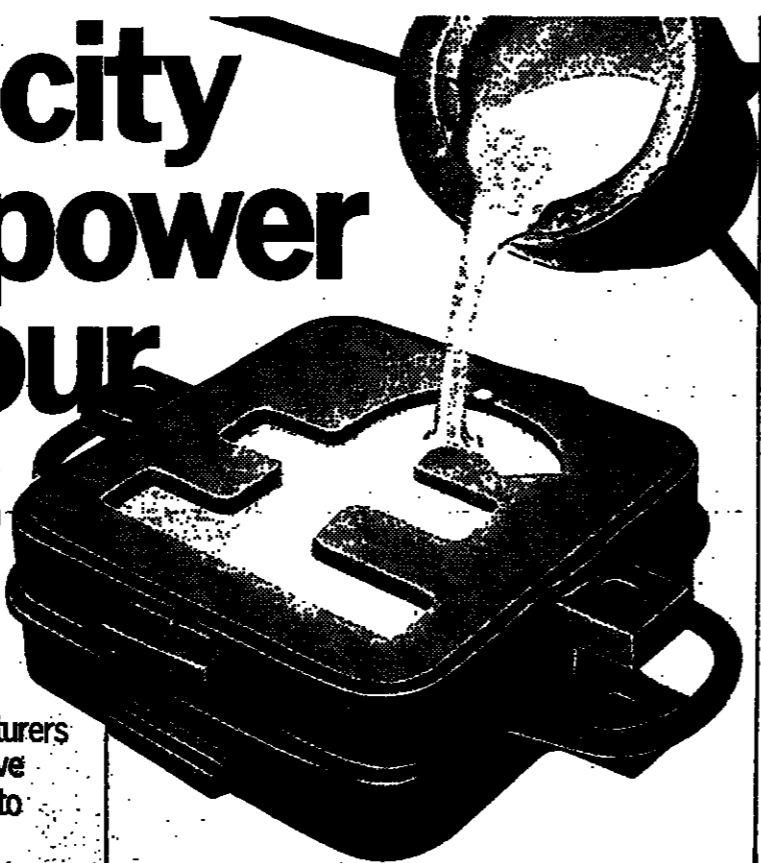


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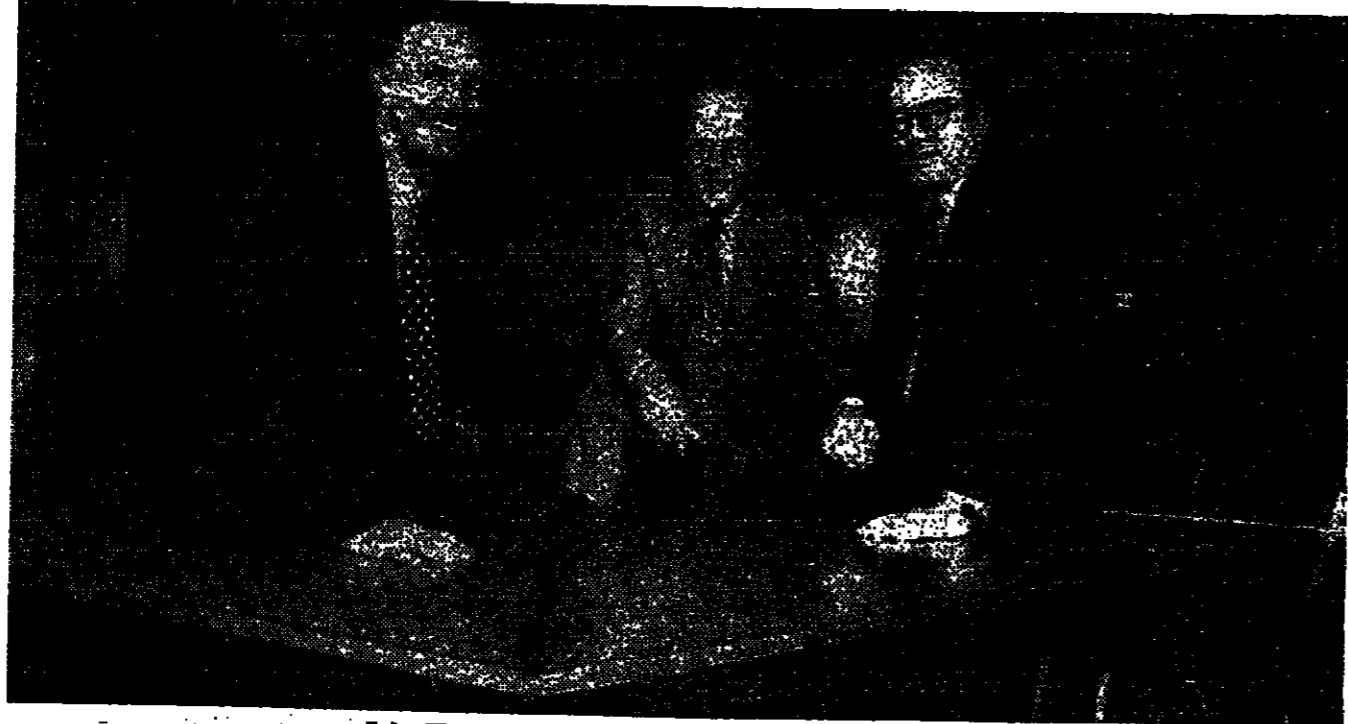
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Handwritten signature in a box.



John Hunt, David Chambers and Walter Reid of the LBS

Putting executives on target

"An indication that your employers think well of you" is how one participant explains his satisfaction at being chosen to go on the London Business School's London Executive Programme. Indeed, sending a practising manager on the 10-week residential course represents a significant commitment from both employer and participant - involving an investment in fees of more than £6,000 in addition to time away from the job.

Intended to help able managers make the transition from specialist into general management, the LEP programme started in 1966 and was one of the first courses introduced by the school. The aim is to enable experienced managers with a typical age of about 38 not only to fill in specific gaps in their knowledge but also to debate with and measure themselves against individuals in other fields.

"Managers who have completed the course should feel more able to communicate with and indeed manage a wider range of people than before," says Mr David Chambers, the programme director. "They should be aware of a much wider range of options in their own companies and be much less likely to follow their noses".

Dr David Hall, works manager at the British Steel Corporation's light products works at Stocksbridge in Sheffield is quite positive that attending the programme specifically helped his career. His argument is that selection alone represents an objective assessment of merit "a badge to

wear" which can be recognized by a variety of employers. Dr Hall was able to test his argument during the steel workers' strike a few months after completing the programme. He found that having completed the course helped him obtain a job offer as technical director by another employer. The alternative job offer in turn influenced his progress within the BSC.

"It kept me on target but has not put me ahead of comparable managers", says Mr Martin Harker, area advances manager at the National Westminster Bank. However Mr Harker does feel it has helped him do his job better. He cites a single piece of advice as having proved to be of particular value. This was that when in doubt about a decision he should ask himself the question "What if?" - ie what would be the consequences - in his case of lending or not lending.

After seven or eight years in the National Health Service Mr Alasdair Liddell, district administrator of the Hammersmith and Fulham Health Authority valued the opportunity to reflect on wider management issues. He came away with the changed perception that "managing was not so much about running or administering an organization as questioning its direction and trying to influence it". He also found useful the opportunity to scrutinize managers in other types of operation. Despite his own lower pay and perks he concluded that there was no one else with whom he would have wished to swap jobs.

There are a sprinkling who come from small and medium-sized firms. On the present programme there is a sole trader who also happens to be the first participant to benefit from a new scholarship scheme introduced by the school in an attempt to improve female representation. By contributing £2,000 towards the fee, the scholarship is intended to help up to two women per session "who would not otherwise be sponsored by their employers".

Three weeks into the course Carolyn Dunn, an advertising and marketing consultant describes it as "extremely worthwhile so far".

Although she considers it to be "a very big gamble" to stay away from a one person business for such a long period she applied for the scholarship because, after two years of working on her own she "felt isolated" and "out of contact with the world". She feels particularly fortunate in that 50 per cent of the participants of her particular programme come from overseas. She is enjoying the opportunity to exchange views about different politics and cultures. Less enjoyable is the emphasis on numeracy. "It came as a shock to someone more used to thinking in words or pictures", she admits.

Because she deals regularly with big businesses as clients, Miss Dunn does not share the criticism made by an earlier participant, Mr Simon Goodman, managing director of Van-Dal Shoes, a family owned company based in Norwich. Mr Goodman feels that there was too much material related to

large firms with £10m plus turnovers to be useful to him. On the positive side, however, Mr Goodman, who trained as an accountant, values the insight into areas such as organizational behaviour which were new to him. Like most participants he also welcomes the social contacts made with fellow course members even though these have not been of direct benefit in improving business performance in the two years since he completed the programme.

An attempt to widen the spread of participants through the women's scholarship scheme is only one of several changes introduced by Mr David Chambers since he took over as programme director last December.

The changes are based on a dossier of suggestions from participants put together jointly with his predecessor, Mr Philip Law. As a result, international emphasis has been stepped up and more attention is being given to management information in the non-financial areas together with the implications of cheap computing facilities. More generally, the curriculum has been tightened up to reduce the amount of discretionary time.

The tightening-up process stems partly from a wish to give sponsors better value for money in a recession and it also relates to feedback from participants and faculty alike. Evidently both want to work under more pressure in the 1980s.

Patricia Tisdall



A relaxing moment for Dr John McGee and Professor Dean Berry

Fielding the largest team of business academics

Less than a year since it was established, the Centre for Business Strategy at the London Business School is well on the way to becoming the largest team of academic researchers world-wide in the practical area of business policy and competitive strategies.

There are already six full-time researchers which should rise to ten by the summer and could possibly near 15 by next year. It will give the centre more firepower intellectually than even Harvard Business School, according to Professor Dean Berry the American who is chairman of the centre.

The centre was set up in August last year with the financial backing of the Gatsby Trust whose funding comes from Mr David Sainsbury, the largest single shareholder in the J. Sainsbury supermarkets chain. The trust has put up an inflation-proofed £1.25m over five years.

The centre's key concern is the continuing decline in competitiveness of British industry and the role played in this by the poor strategic management of British companies.

Mr Sainsbury's thinking in providing the initial funding - additional funding from other sources will also be pursued so the centre's work can expand further - was that he shared a widespread feeling that there was a considerable need for better strategic thinking in British industry.

The centre already has well advanced a study of the reprographics industry, the copiers market which includes British companies such as Gestetner and Roneo Vickers, but in which Japanese makers are on a strong force.

One researcher on this

traditional, mature industrial sectors where the bulk of British investment capital is still tied up. A major study will be made probably either of automotive components or the petrol and diesel engines sector.

There are some smaller-scale studies of new technology industries including biotechnology and fibre optics. But fibre optics is one area where the centre has brushed up against the difficulty of grudgingly being given access to information by companies.

Elsewhere, the centre's researchers have met a more varied response. Dr McGee said: "In engineering, for instance, while there is sensitivity about closures and capacity, companies are pretty receptive to the idea of an outside opinion."

There are also plans to investigate the chemicals sector where there have been exchanges of capacity between companies as well as capacity restructuring schemes in basic industries like metals.

Key research issues as well as the problem of declining British competitiveness are the British multinational companies, exploration of company exit decisions from particular sectors, management buy-outs, intervention by development agencies, patterns of diversification and patterns of competition within industries.

Ultimately the concern of the centre is with the competitive outcome of decision-making in companies, says Professor Berry. "We believe there is a need to demonstrate the application of strategic ideas and concepts to problems perceived by real firms." That compares with most other academic inquiries which develop ideas that only eventually might be picked up

and used at the company level. Professor Berry went on: "Business problems do not always arrive neatly labelled and packaged. Of significance to us is the need to adapt existing ideas and concepts in the context of individual strategic problems as they arise." Working backwards from specific cases can lead to the invention of new perspectives.

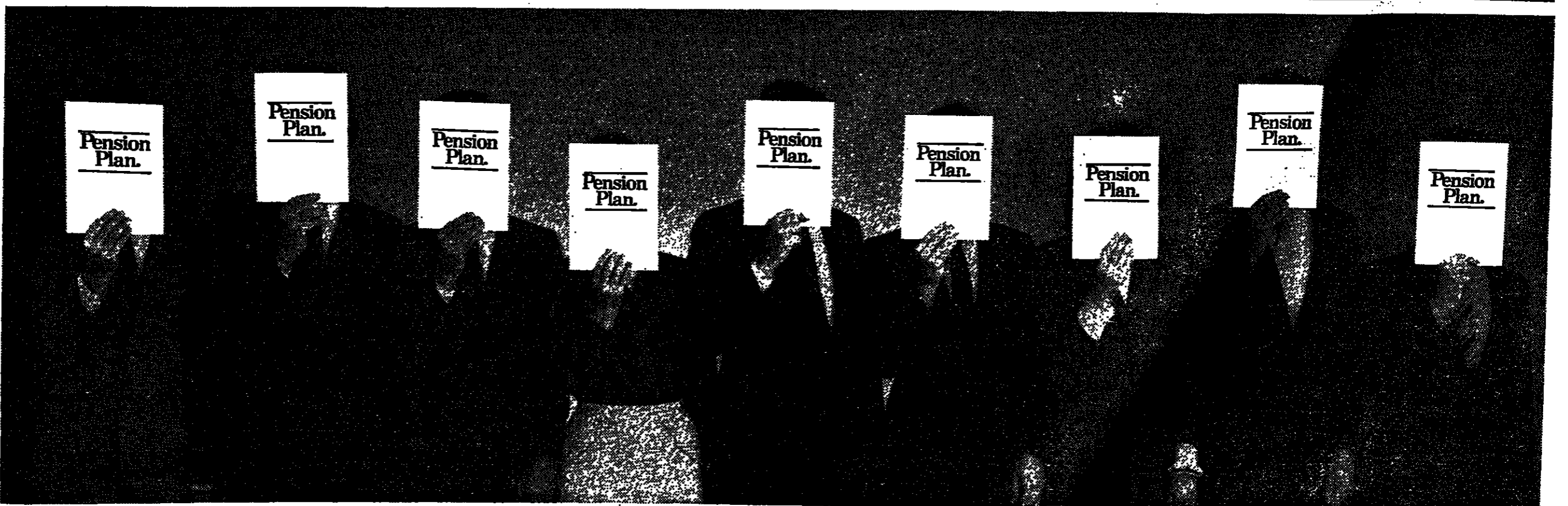
The centre expects to make an impact at national as well as company level. "We shall be controversial and I think it is right we should be," said Professor Berry. "If the Department of Industry, say, produces a plan for a sector which we believe doesn't stand up then we would say so."

Blending the ultra-practical approach with the academic has meant that the research team is likely to include recruits which do not meet normal academic standards. "Someone may not have produced any academic publications but could otherwise be exactly the person we need," said Professor Berry.

A balancing factor as the centre pursues its aim of securing maximum public social and corporate impact will be the make-up of its council to which eight business leaders are planned to be recruited.

Among those who have already agreed to serve on the council are Mr Ian Hay Davison, deputy chairman and chief executive of Lloyd's of London, Mr David Walker, one of four executive directors of the Bank of England, Dr John Westhead, managing director of Bowthorpe Holdings and Mr David Plastow, managing director and chief executive of Vickers.

Derek Harris
Commercial Correspondent



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something which very few professionals have the time to organise. As a result many people make do with ordinary schemes - and miss out on benefits which one day could be crucial. Hence the need for Legal & General's Professional Pension Plans. Plans which bring together all the major developments made in the field in the last two years.

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LONDON BUSINESS SCHOOL

Research pulls in the big money

Research into a wide range of business prospects and problems is not just a cornerstone of the teaching role of the London Business School. It is also currently attracting annually some £600,000 worth of sponsored research from a wide range of companies and organizations.

It takes the school's research teams to the leading edge of many specific problems, from ethnic business and case studies in human relations to econometric model building and measuring television audience flow.

Since key researchers also are involved in the school's courses, a more than normally acute sense of business realism pervades its work.

Research plays a more important role at London than probably at any other business school in Europe, according to Professor John Hunt, the Faculty Dean who specializes in studies in human relations.

Professor Jim Ball, the principal of the London Business School, sees this as a sign of success. One market test of a business school is that it must earn substantial sums of money in the market place from teaching in order to survive, he points out, but there was a second market test relating to a school's capacity to generate research support in the open market.

"First-class continuing education programmes should rest on a research basis and a postgraduate activity which would attract the right kind of staff of high quality necessary for both kinds of educational programme," he says.

The strength of the faculty in a research-orientated school is the specialized knowledge and ability of faculty members, he went on. "They are not there simply to act as organizers of syndicates and to chair seminars, even allowing for the fact that such activities are of importance in our work. I expect a good business faculty to have something important to say within their field of specialization which is significant for managers."

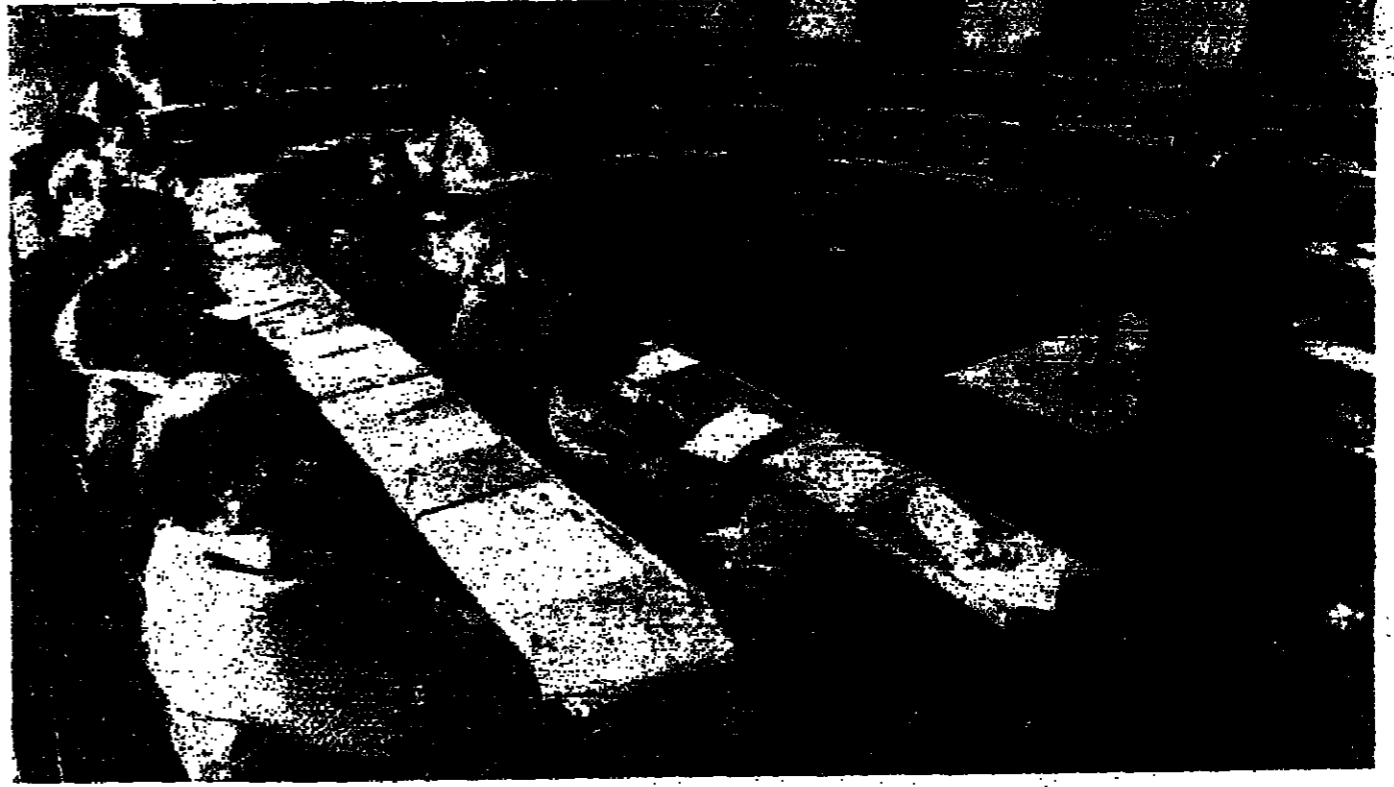
Professor Ball has no time for those who say a business school is insufficiently close to industry. "The external demands on the services of my colleagues, year in and year out, make it clear that our involvement with industry, commerce and government extends far beyond the walls of this school," he said.

There is an even greater necessity for effective managers in today's recession-purged business climate than there was in the ebullient 1960s. A combination of rapid technological change, fierce competition and sluggish overall growth is forcing a reassessment of priorities.

After a decade of disillusionment following early optimism results are at last emerging to indicate that management graduates are fulfilling their early promise. A recent analysis of Master graduates of the London Business School - the first major British university centre to be devoted entirely to management education - shows that by last summer 40 per cent had reached director level and above. The survey covered 242 of the total of 1,200 who have graduated since the Masters programme started in 1966. Considering that the first graduates are now only in the middle forty age group, the results are impressive.

Among its distinguished old boys, the LBS numbers Mr John Egan who was appointed chairman and chief executive of Jaguar Cars at the age of 43. Mr Egan, who graduated in 1968, was a member of the LBS's first master class. Like many MBAs (Masters of Business Administration) Mr Egan's career spans several companies including Shell, General Motors and Massey Ferguson before he arrived in 1980 in his present position.

Another distinguished ex-LBS student is Mr Ron Dearing, chairman of the Post Office who completed one of the first Sloan Fellowship Programmes in 1969. Mr Dearing has demonstrated even more flexibility in his career than Mr Egan. After more than 30 years in the civil service reaching to top echelons as a Deputy Secretary in the Department of Industry, Mr Dearing moved out to head the newly separated (and then seriously ailing) postal side of the Post Office Corporation in 1980 at the age of 50.



Students listen to a lecturer in the modern Wolfson theatre

Two thirds of the sponsor funds are accounted for by four research institutes at the school. Probably the best known is the Centre for Economic Forecasting of which Professor Alan Budd is director. It produces three major economic forecasts annually with the help of its constantly up-dated econometric model of the British economy, and has long been regarded as a key influence in this field.

The other three are the Institute of Finance and Accounting, the Institute of Small Business and the Institute of Public Sector Management. But these have been joined by two new ventures. One is the Centre for Business Strategy launched in August last year especially to tackle the problem of the continuing decline in British industry. The other is the Design Management Unit, the first of its kind at a European business school, whose initial job will be to evaluate the role of design in British industrial corporations and its place within work organizations. There are various other research projects.

Research on attitudes and behaviour includes work on consumer reaction to television

and radio programmes and to popular branded goods.

Professor Hunt acknowledges the national impact of the school's economic forecasts, but he believes that the Institute of Finance and Accounting is also now wielding a major influence.

Year	£000	%*
1973-74	103	(12.8)
1974-75	277	(22.8)
1975-76	366	(23.8)
1976-77	370	(22.5)
1977-78	490	(21.7)
1978-79	462	(21.1)
1979-80	527	(20.2)
1980-81	528	(17.2)
1981-82	537	(15.8)
1982-83	694	(17.1)

*Percentage of total LBS income

Its research covers a wide range, from corporate finance and portfolio investment, to financial accounting and the social aspects of accounting.

The institute now markets a range of research-based financial services. A computer programme valuing financial leases is used by some 45 companies. Many portfolio investors use the quarterly risk measurement service, which can be used to judge the risk factor of specific ordinary share holding.

The risk investment service covers some 2,000 listed companies in 84 different British industries. Well established in the United States, risk measurement is now becoming more widely known in the United Kingdom because of the work of the school's institute.

There is also a transactions analysis service, which measures the effect of deals on the value of a total equity portfolio. It evaluates whether the deals have beaten the market.

A strategic asset allocation service is another planning tool for investment managers and pension fund trustees. Fund managers can examine the consequences of changing a fund's proportional involvement in 22 different varieties of British and foreign securities.

Founded in 1974, the institute claims now to be Europe's leading academic institution in finance and accounting. With a faculty of more than 20 it also claims to be the largest business school centre for finance in Europe under its director Professor Richard Brasley.

The public sector management institute is breaking new ground. Its main concern are the issues arising from management of planning in the

nationalized industries and other public services, including local authorities.

Professor Hunt says that although it is still rare to find in the public sector anybody with graduate training in management, things are starting to change. There had been increasing pressure on the school to move into that area and run programmes for among others, the Civil Service, he said.

Nationalized industries have been calling on the school's expertise for some time and support for research has come, among others, from British Rail, the National Coal Board, the Central Electricity Generating Board and the British Airports Authorities.

There could be further expansion of the London Business School's research activities. One possible new institute could investigate data analysis, says Professor Hunt. Another tentative idea is to look at human problems within organizations. Investigating problems that are likely to be thrown up as new technologies lead to more people working at home.

Derek Harris

Best wishes to the London Business School from



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On the occasion of the opening of The Plowden Building, Esso are pleased to wish the LONDON BUSINESS SCHOOL continuing success.



Graduates fulfil promise

graduates are fulfilling their early promise. A recent analysis of Master graduates of the London Business School - the first major British university centre to be devoted entirely to management education - shows that by last summer 40 per cent had reached director level and above. The survey covered 242 of the total of 1,200 who have graduated since the Masters programme started in 1966. Considering that the first graduates are now only in the middle forty age group, the results are impressive.

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equivalent to the MBA awarded by the leading American business schools. Students on the Masters Programme have an average age of 27 and will typically have spent four years in employment between obtaining their first degree and coming to the LBS.

During the first year of the programme there is a core of compulsory subjects. But in the second participants can select to concentrate on 11 subjects from a choice of more than 50. In addition all students have to work on two projects working closely with companies on actual problems.

Although its stringent entry standards have prompted accusations of intellectual arrogance, the LBS has always also held experience in high regard. Operated alongside the Masters Programme are a variety of courses designed for practising managers. One of the first of these was the Executive Development Programme (now the 10-week London Executive Programme). This is aimed at helping specialists move into general management. Another early development was the

London Sloan Fellowship Programme. Designed to provide an educational bridge for promising young executives in the 30 to 40 age range this is an intensive nine-month general management course.

More recent has been the Senior Executive Programme a six week course designed for managers concerned with policy issues. In response to the increasing reluctance of able managers to take time away from their jobs is the Continuing Executive Programme which runs over modules of two-weeks. There is, in addition the New Enterprise Programme intended to help people who are about to start new small businesses, with a wide variety of short specialist programmes.

While the majority of the executives attending the development programmes are sponsored by their employers, most of Masters class are supported by a combination of grants, scholarships and their own savings.

Some have made considerable personal sacrifices in order to complete the course and all have a lot of financial leeway to

make up in lost earnings. The fact that high paying employers have tended to be either American-based multinationals, financial institutions or consultants led to some sour criticism from manufacturers. In terms of job area, production last year rated a zero score as far as LBS Master graduates were concerned as it did in 1981 while in 1980 it represented only 6 per cent. Finance was the work area of 37 per cent while marketing jobs absorbed a further 29 per cent.

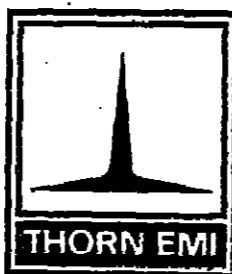
The tendency for early MBAs to job hop at their employer's expense is one of the reasons given by employers for not sponsoring candidates. However, with hindsight, it could be argued that the undoubted resettlement problems experienced with the MBAs in the late 1960s and early 1970s could have lain as much with the employing organizations as with the newly minted business schools. The leaner the companies of the 1980s may be better equipped to make use of intelligent, ambitious managers who are thirsty for responsibility - even if they are also over priced, arrogant and rash - than were their predecessors.

Patricia Tisdall

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congratulates the London Business School on the opening of the Plowden Building, completing its second phase of development.

The Company believes that developing its managers is developing its business. The London Business School is assisting in that.



The rigorous Masters programme

Lord Franks, whose report in 1963 led to the expansion of business schools in Britain emphasized the importance of "a framework of knowledge" in recommending the formation of two centres of excellence - one linked to the London School of Economics the other to Manchester University.

Previously, apart from the courses offered by independent schools such as Ashridge Management College or Henley, the only formal qualification available for managers was the part-time Diploma of Management Studies started by the Ministry of Education in 1961. For the first time LBS and then Manchester offered people of proven intellectual ability (a first degree or equivalent) formal preparation for entry into management as a career. By 1976 more than 20 universities had management schools or centres or at least large departments of management studies. By 1981 some 42 universities were offering a bewildering variety of one-year and two-year courses of widely differing standards.

As well as being the first, the LBS claims that its full-time two year Masters programme is the most rigorous. It leads to an MSc degree in Business Studies of the University of London, which the LBS reckons is fully



London Business School

London Business School, recognised as a leading international business school, offers the following Executive Development Programmes:

THE SENIOR EXECUTIVE PROGRAMME - a challenging six-week programme for senior managers who are assuming wider general management responsibilities and who will be involved increasingly in making long-term strategic decisions.

Dates: 12 February - 23 March, 1984.

THE LONDON EXECUTIVE PROGRAMME - an intensive 10-week programme of learning and interaction for managers with key contributions to make to their companies' future success. The programme's focus is on building and sustaining competitive advantage in the international and national markets of the mid-80's.

Dates: L.E.P. 37: 2 October - 9 December, 1983. L.E.P. 38: 29 April - 6 July, 1984.

THE CONTINUING EXECUTIVE PROGRAMME - a modular general management programme for directors and senior managers in small to medium sized businesses with three full-time sessions at the School each of two weeks spread over 16 months.

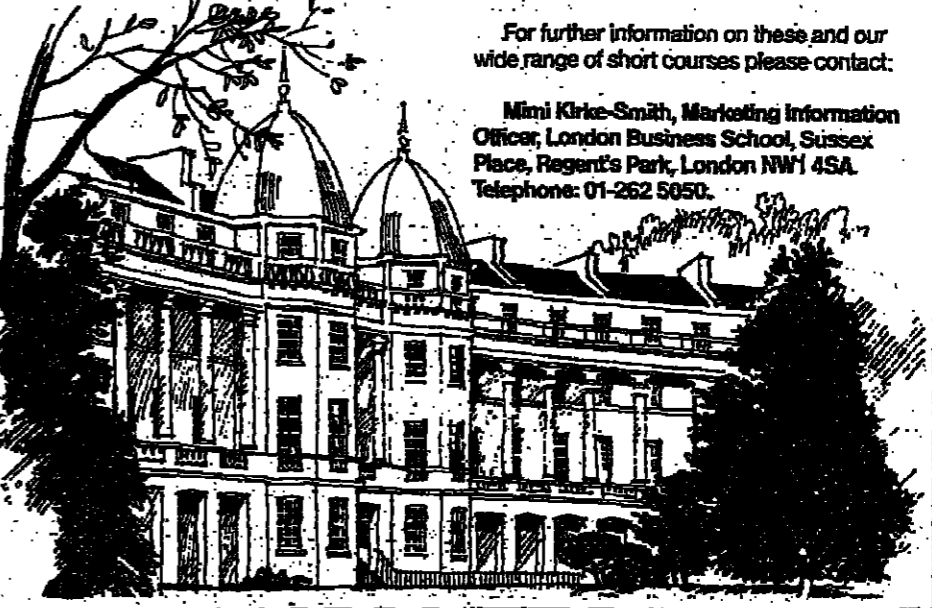
Dates: Stage 1: 20 February - 2 March, 1984. Stage 2: 15 - 25 October, 1984. Stage 3: 10 - 21 June, 1985.

THE LONDON SLOAN FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME - an intensive 9 month general management programme for experienced and successful people, typically in their thirties, who are in the process of making a major career advance.

Dates: 28 September, 1983 - 6 July, 1984.

For further information on these and our wide range of short courses please contact:

Mimi Krize-Smith, Marketing Information Officer, London Business School, Sussex Place, Regent's Park, London NW1 4SA. Telephone: 01-262 5050.



Investment and Finance

City Editor Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

City Office 280 Gray's Inn Road London WC1X 8EZ Telephone 01-537 1234

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 705.2 up 5.5 FT All Share 433.47 up 4.98 ... Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones 8626.00 up 43.66 ... New York Dow Jones Average (latest) 1230.26 up 1.25

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE Sterling \$1.6000 up 1.45pts Index 86.6 up 0.8 DM 3.9950 up 0.450 ... NEW YORK LATEST Gold \$440.00 Sterling \$1.6025

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates: Base rates 10 3 month interbank 10 1/2-10 3/4 ... ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period April 6 to May 3, 1983 inclusive: 10.304 per cent.

PRICE CHANGES

H Ingram 68p up 23p Hollas Group 28p up 5p Suter 44p up 7p Wellman Eng. 27p up 4p ... Socomme M. 210 down 15p

TODAY

Interims: Gomme Holdings, William Leach, Moran Tea Holdings, Pick Petroleum. Finals: Hicking Penicost, Macdonald, Marlin Distillers, Nineteen Twenty-Eight Investment Trust, North British Steel Group. Economic statistics: Balance of payments current account and overseas trade figures (April). Sales and orders in the engineering industries (February).

UDS quashes shops sale

A proposal to sell off the Richard Shops and the John Collier chain to the Burton Group was defeated at an extraordinary meeting of UDS yesterday. The sale was not expected to go through after Hanson Trust announced it would vote against the resolution. Hanson now controls 79 per cent of UDS shares. The proposal was originally made as an earlier bid from the private Bassishaw consortium before Hanson appeared as a counter-bidder. SHIPPING PAYMENTS: Ellerman, the shipping, brewing and travel group which is being offered for sale, made ex gratia payments totalling £239,000 to three former directors last year, it says in its latest report. POLYESTER SALE: Steelley's wholly-owned subsidiary in Australia is selling its escon polyester resin manufacturing business to A. C. Hattrick Chemicals for A\$1.4m (£786,000). HARRIS REMINDER: Lorrho has reminded House of Fraser shareholders under the department store group's letter head that they can vote again on the demerger of Harrods issue on June 30. The action appears to scotch City speculation that Lorrho is prepared to drop the meeting in return for concessions by the main board. OIL BILL: The oil import cost of the members of the Organization for Economic Development and Cooperation is expected to fall to \$187bn (£113.2bn) this year from \$202bn in 1982 after the cut in oil prices to \$29 a barrel from \$34 announced by the Organization of Oil Exporting Countries in March. In yesterday's edition it was stated that the Wolverhampton & Dudley Breweries would face a "reprimand" from the Takeover Panel because of its proposal to increase the cash alternative element in its offer for Davenport. We now understand that the proposal was only tabled after preliminary discussion with the Takeover Panel and that there is therefore no question of a reprimand.

WALL STREET Shares stage rally

New York (AP-Dow Jones) The stock market struggled for direction early yesterday following a surge that drove the Dow Jones average close to its all-time high. The Dow was off 1.26 at 1,227.75 at one point but reversed the movement soon. It has since risen 33.99 points in three sessions. Advances led declines 727 to 568 among the 1,680 issues crossing the tape. Mr Lawrence Kudlow, of the Office of Management and Budget, predicted that the economic recovery "is going to be surprisingly robust, with the real gross national product up six per cent this year on a four-quarter to four-quarter basis."

Defence stocks gained after the Senate's vote to release \$625m for development of the MX missile. Active Boeing climbed 1 1/2 to 40 1/2. Northrop two to 89 1/2. Raytheon two to 53 and General Dynamics 1 1/2 to 101 1/2. Plessey advanced six to 107. The company reported higher earnings and announced a two-for-one stock split. Diamond Shamrock was off 1/2 to 23 1/2. Philip Morris was off 1/2 to 58 1/2. The stock had been receding since R. J. Reynolds on Tuesday announced a new 25-cigar pack that some analysts believe could trigger a price war. Reynolds was unchanged at 50 and American Brands was down 1/2 to 50 1/2.

Plessey profits leap 31 pc

By Derek Harris Commercial Editor Pretax profits at Plessey, the telecommunications company, jumped 31 per cent last year, well ahead of expectations. The shares ended 15p up at 68 1/2. A warning of more losses in largely lower skilled jobs came from Sir John Clark, Plessey's chairman and chief executive, although an increase in skilled jobs is expected. Improvements in operating efficiency including reductions in the workforce lies behind an improvement in operating profit margins which for the year were 11.1 per cent of sales compared with 10.4 per cent the previous year. The biggest lift to Plessey profits came from its telecommunications activities where operating profits rose 23.9 per cent to £67.5m. Telecommunications accounts for more than half the business. Profits from the growth sector of electronic systems and equipment sales, mostly in the defence field, were up 32.5 per cent. This is a quarter of the business. But two US operations, the newly acquired Stromberg-Carlson in telecommunications and computer Peripherals (CP) in the consumer electronics, are loss makers. Losses at CP have risen to £2.4m. Operating profits in aerospace and engineering were slashed 26 per cent, down £4m to £11.4m. Sales have been going well in Britain but badly in the US. Plessey's cash balance now stands at £272m.

Deadline for Nigeria debt plan

Commercial banks have been asked to commit themselves formally to a plan to refinance part of Nigeria's overdue trade debts by June 3. Barclays Bank International one of the main creditors which is spearheading the refinancing plan, has sent final details of the proposals to 28 European and American banks and has asked for replies by the end of next week. The aim is to convert between \$1.5bn and \$2bn of overdue confirmed terms of credit into medium term loan over three years. The refinancing is expected to be the first stage in trying to ease Nigeria's acute liquidity problems, brought about by the drop in oil prices. Bankers are expected to agree to the refinancing plan although some banks are still believed to have reservations about proposals for granting Nigeria further trade credits in the future. Although details have not been disclosed, a commitment to further lines of credit from commercial banks at a later date is believed to be tied in with the initial refinancing plan. Nigeria has admitted to total trade debt arrears of \$5.3bn, although many commercial bankers put the figure much higher.

New market beyond Saudi 'golden corridor' Desert ripe for exports

By John Lawless Eiyadh, was Shaikh Soliman Al-Salih Al-Mushaihih. "It was the first time a mission had ever been there," said the mission's leader, Mr Bill Pirie, of consultants Sir Alexander Gibb. Mr Purcell added: "I am now convinced, there are other provincial areas in Saudi Arabia I could do business in." That is pretty much the conclusion of Mr Michael Field, author of the Comet study. He says that the provinces will be a prime area of business in the next few years. Shaikh Al-Mushaihih spent 10 days in even more business-like terms. He is building a department store at Buryaydah, and sent the mission home with a definitive list of the goods he needs for it. He said that if the quality and prices were satisfactory, "we would expect to place substantial orders with you". He said that he would be interested in spare parts, agricultural equipment, building and decorating materials, furniture, electrical appliances, food, soft drinks, stationery, novelties, cosmetics, watches, tex-

Point-of-sale debiting network by 1990 Banks to spend £50m in move towards a cashless society

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent High street banks are to press ahead rapidly with a national point-of-sale electronic payments system costing up to £50m in new investment. The system, which will involve installing electronic terminals in shops and garages connected directly to banks, could eventually revolutionise shopping in the high street and mark a big step towards the days of the cashless society. Called electronic funds transfer at the point-of-sale (EFT/POS), it will work rather like the existing bank cash dispensers. However, it will allow customers to pay for goods in shops with a plastic card and the money will be debited directly from their bank accounts. Yesterday the 12 banks involved in the scheme reaffirmed their commitment to it after studying a detailed report on the system carried out by a working party from the Committee of London Clearing Banks. The big English and Scottish clearing banks are involved as well as the Co-op Bank, National Giro and Trustee Savings Bank. The Bank of England is also in the 12-bank policy committee. The decision to go ahead with the electronic network is a setback for Barclays Bank. Barclays had argued for a gradual approach by upgrading the kind of electronic authorisation terminals which Barclays is installing to check credit card transactions. Trials of the system, which will bring big cost and time savings are due to start by 1986 with the system fully operational by 1990 when it could be replacing up to 10 per cent of cheque volume. A total of 2.5 billion cheques are now written every year and the number is growing by 4 per cent annually. The banks have not disclosed how much it will cost but it is thought that up to £50m of new investment will be needed. Major issues on control ownership and funding the system have still to be sorted out, Mr Gerald Clarke, chairman of the banks' policy committee, conceded yesterday. He said the banks would continue consulting with interested parties and it was vital that consumers, retailers and

P & O bank would be demerged

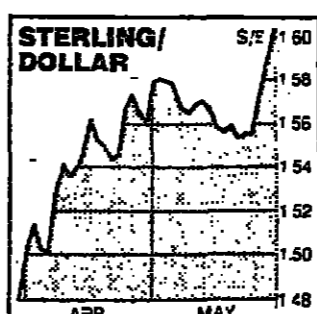
By Jonathan Clare Twentieth Century Banking and Finance arm, will be demerged and floated, probably on the Unlisted Securities Market, if Trafalgar House's near £300m bid for P&O is successful. TCB made more than £5m last year against £3.8m which would make it one of the biggest companies on the USM although a full listing has not been ruled out. The attraction of the USM is the high premium that its companies have obtained. TCB has existed for more than 40 years and provides overdrafts and loans for industrial and private borrowers, loans under the Government's Loan Guarantee Scheme for Small Businesses, conventional accounts, corporate advice and investment management. TCB's business is the only part of P&O where Trafalgar has no comparable interest. The demerger proposal is believed to be under active consideration by Trafalgar's board. Mr Nigel Brookes, Trafalgar's chairman, said when he announced the bid on Tuesday. "We are looking at it with detachment." He also said a demerger of the combined shipping, interests was "inconceivable" but hinted that other parts might be floated off. TCB is the obvious candidate. Trafalgar is considering whether to include a surprise profits forecast in its offer document, expected at the end of next week, to rub home the difference in performance between the two companies. Directors of both companies met the Office of Fair Trading yesterday, at different times, to put their cases, the market has marked P&O's shares down to 207p, about the value of the bid, in expectation that the OFT will refer it to the Monopolies Commission in about three weeks. Labour's plans for the shipping industry would lead to an "inefficient, expensive state corporation surviving on a drip-feed of taxpayers' money", Mr Richard Pookley, the new president of the General Council of British Shipping, warned yesterday.

Candecca wants £10.8m for further exploration

By Our Financial Staff Candecca Resources, the oil and gas group quoted on the Unlisted Securities Market, is to raise £10.8m from a one-for-three rights issue to fund the next stage of its onshore exploration progress. Mr Geoffrey Butcher, chairman, said that the issue of 9,735,367 new ordinary shares at 115p per share is fully underwritten by Kleinwort Benson. One fifth of the new shares will be taken by Sceptre Resources, the Canadian exploration company which has a 41 per cent stake in Candecca. The announcement was accompanied by Candecca's estimated results for the year ending March 31, which show that the group made a loss of £684,000, compared with £115,000 pretax profits the previous year. Revenue from oil sales fell from £119,000 in 1981 to £75,000 last year. About £2m of the rights issue proceeds will be used to discharge group borrowings with the rest earmarked for further exploration work in the 3,000 acres of land in the company's control. Test results from the Humbly Grove Field, near Basingstoke, Hampshire, suggest that there are 63 million barrels of oil reserves, with a further 15 million barrels possible. Candecca is planning to develop the field by October next year, and is aiming at a maximum production of 4,000 barrels a day. Candecca's share price fell by 10p to 140p, on publication of the details of the issue.

Pound and shares forge ahead

By Our Financial Staff Election excitement pushed the stock market to a new record and the pound bursting through \$1.60 against the dollar in anticipation of a comfortable win for the Conservatives again. Heavy overseas demand for sterling sent the currency racing ahead for the third day in a row. At the close, sterling was 1.45 cents up against the dollar at \$1.60 and further gains against other leading currencies left its trade weighted value 0.8 higher at 86.6. Foreign exchange dealers said the pound's rise appeared unstoppable for the moment and there was talk of sterling reaching \$1.65 ahead of the election. At one stage yesterday, sterling slipped back on reported Russian selling, but the buying soon gathered pace again and the opening of the New York market pushed the pound up further. The general trend is still upwards, one dealer said yesterday.



Investment outlook improves

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent A marked improvement in the outlook for manufacturing investment is revealed by the latest Department of Industry survey of investment intentions published yesterday. It shows that manufacturing companies plan to increase their capital spending over the coming months, continuing into 1984, after four successive years of decline. But manufacturing investment in 1983 as a whole is still expected to be about 4 per cent lower than in 1982, reflecting a sharp drop in spending in the first half. Recent surveys by the Confederation of British Industry also confirm that investment intentions have strengthened. The CBI expects manufacturing investment to grow by about 5 per cent between the final quarter of 1982 and 1983, with a similar rise in the first half of 1984. This modest increase compares, however, with a plunge of nearly 40 per cent in manufacturing investment since the downturn began in 1979. Higher investment, as the National Institute for Economic and Social Research pointed out on Monday, is essential if the upswing is to be maintained, and the latest signs that at long last manufacturing industry is planning to spend more on investment will be welcome news to the government, especially after the disappointing capital spending figures

City Comment

'T' factor gains currency

When sterling tumbled from the dizzy heights of \$2.40 in 1980 most people thought they had heard the last of the "Thatcher Factor" - that curious propellant, along with North Sea Oil and high interest rates, embodying the general notion that the Prime Minister was going to be tough on inflation, curb policy on a tight rein, curb the power of the unions, and generally set the world to rights. But today, with the Tories running a near impenetrable lead in the opinion polls, the Thatcher factor has re-emerged with a vengeance. Suddenly the world is piling into sterling to buy gilt-edged stock, convinced that a Conservative Britain will firmly, and perhaps more firmly than others, tread the low inflation road. Now that sterling has breached the \$1.60 barrier (a key chart point) only a dramatic turn round in the opinion polls seems likely to halt its ascent. Talk of \$1.65 within a week and \$1.70 after a Thatcher win is rife in City circles. Profit-taking is expected to have little impact. And other currencies seem to have little going for them, with even the dollar looking a less attractive bet than sterling. For investors in gilts the risks look small. A strong pound means interest rates are more likely to come down than not (though probably not before the election), while the inflation outlook has improved considerably. But investors in equities could do well to ponder. The rebound in sterling has wiped out more than half the gain to profits and competitiveness promised by its earlier depreciation. With the pound now at DM4 after DM3.54 at its recent low, the booming stockmarket looks more vulnerable.

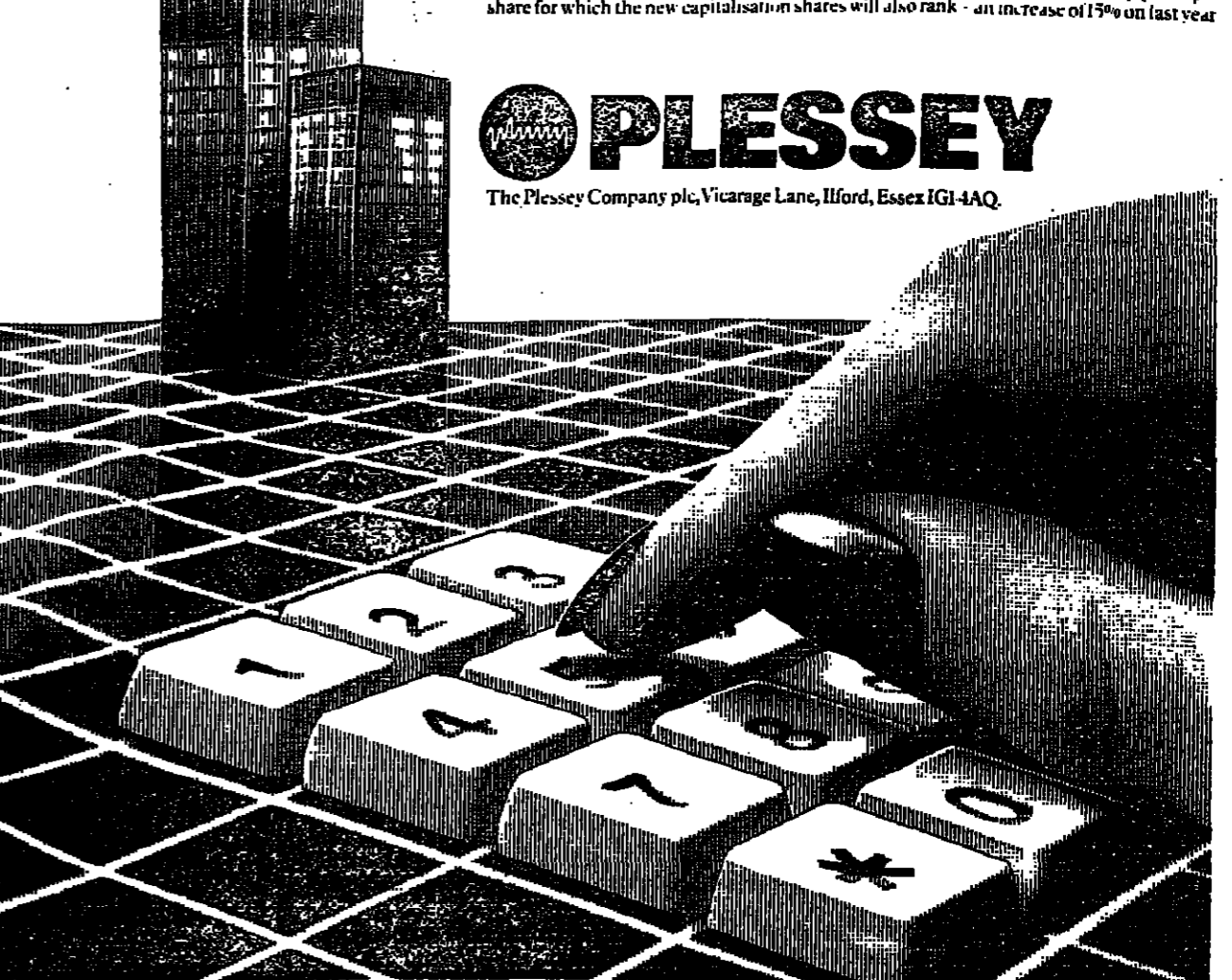
1982/83 PRELIMINARY RESULTS

An outstanding year for Plessey

An extract from The Plessey Company's unaudited consolidated results.

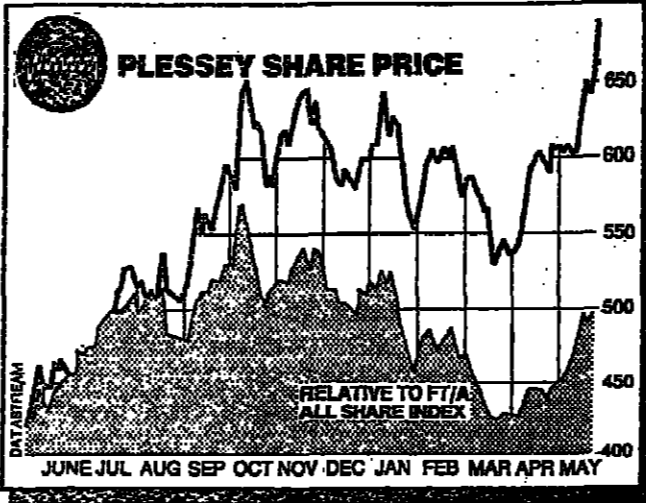
Table with 3 columns: Metric, 52 weeks ended 1 April 1983 £000, 52 weeks ended 2 April 1982 £000. Rows include Sales (1,074,750 vs 963,074), Operating profit (119,004 vs 100,140), Profit before taxation (146,362 vs 111,438), Profit before extraordinary items (82,798 vs 70,866).

At the Annual General Meeting a restructuring of the capital of the Company will be recommended, to make a one for two capitalisation issue and then to split each of the existing 50p shares into two shares of 25p each. Conditional upon shareholders' approval of the above recommendation, a final dividend will be proposed at the rate of 1/4p per 25p share for which the new capitalisation shares will also rank - an increase of 15% on last year.



INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK by Sandy McLachlan

Brewing results produce a sparkle



The groups to watch are those which have diversified success...

Plessey

Plessey Year to 1.4.83 Pretax profit £146.4m (£111.4m)...

There are not many clouds on the horizon for Plessey, the

improvement in the last quarter. By the final quarter of the current year it should be in profit, he said.

There have apparently been no major surprises in Strömberg. Apart from the initial buyout cost of £29.7m another £13m has been invested.

But there are question marks over Computer Peripherals, the US operation in the consumer sector.

Nothing concrete has yet emerged from Plessey's talks on a link-up with Burroughs the large American computer manufacturer.

Abingworth

Any investment trust coming to the market for new funds these days, has to be able to offer something different.

business of venture capital before it became trendy. According to its directors, that is worth a fortune in contracts and investment opportunities which in turn is the difference between success and failure in venture capital.

The company's record to date is impressive. On capital of about £6m invested since 1974, Abingworth today has about 60 investments worth about £48.4m.

Three companies, Apple Computer, Standard Microsystems and Digital Communications, are worth 54 per cent of the current portfolio while Apple itself, the outstanding success in the Abingworth stable, is worth 35 per cent.

Nevertheless, there has been only one disastrous investment since the company began - Irvine Sellers on which it lost £67,000 - while most of the rest of the portfolio has shown above average growth.

In addition, a high proportion of the unlisted investments, which account for more than half the total number but less than 20 per cent of the value of the portfolio, are in cost areas which would realise a lot more in the market.

All of this helps to justify the marginal discount on net assets of just 2 per cent at which the shares are being offered. But even specialist investment trusts usually trade on much higher discounts.

Beckhavan Brewery Group Year to 31.3.83 Pretax profit, £183,000 (£4,000)...

Greenall Whitley Half-year to 31.3.83 Pretax profit, £8.9m (£8.4m)...

Young and Co's Brewery Year to 31.3.83 Pretax profit, £2.2m (£1.8m)...

The cluster of brewery companies which reported figures yesterday produced impressive results, but for different reasons.

The best performance came from Mr Eric Morley's Belhaven Brewery in Scotland, but the final results were overshadowed by the news that Virani Group, which owns 19 British hotels, has bought a 12 per cent stake in the company from Mr John Berkley, an outgoing director.

Mr Morley said that the deal will provide an extra outlet for Belhaven's beers but does not rule out the prospect of a full bid by Virani. In the meantime he has ambitious plans for the

Belhaven group. Pretax profits of £183,000 against £4,000 last time helped by a strong contribution from the mainstream brewing business, where profits rose from £346,000 to £402,000.

Elsewhere, efforts to curb the group's losses on its holiday camps and hotels have been fairly successful although Mr Morley is negotiating sales in these areas to stem losses and provide funds for new investments.

At Greenall Whitley, another of the brewers to produce interim results, it was also the non-brewing businesses which caused most of the problems. The unfortunate investment in Arrowsmith, the ex-Laker holiday business, continues to cause problems and losses increased. No breakdown was made available, but the company is confident that Arrowsmith will be trading in the black for the second half of the year.

Pretax profits at Greenall Whitley were up from £8.4m to £8.9m on a turnover which rose from £102m to £120m. Analysts are forecasting about £20m for the full year. The Shipstone's brewery in the East Midlands again made a healthy return and the group's ancillary hotels business is also looking stronger.

At Young and Co's Brewery in London, pretax profits were up from £1.8m to £2.2m, but the improvement was largely due to property sales. Beer sales were down by 2 per cent in line with the national downturn.

Plessey

Plessey Year to 1.4.83 Pretax profit £146.4m (£111.4m)...

There are not many clouds on the horizon for Plessey, the

Unit trusts help M & G to 72pc earnings rise

By Andrew Cornelius The M & G Group, one of Britain's largest unit trusts, has reported a 72 per cent rise in pretax profits to £2.6m in the six months to March 31.

The higher profits are the result of an improvement in its business in Britain and the US,

M & G Group Half-year to 31.3.83 Pretax profit £2.6m (£1.8m)...

greater activity in the unit trust business as a whole and a marked upturn in the high yielding and recovery shares in which the group specialises.

The contribution from leasing increased from £133,000 to £211,000 while dividends and interest earnings rose to £333,000.

The directors have recommended payment of an increased interim dividend of 9p (6p) and promise a final dividend of 9p.

The interim profits do not take account of the results from M & G's life assurance business which has expanded rapidly

TDK tape sales wind down

TDK, the Japanese recording tape and electronic component manufacturer which gets a London listing today, expects its profits to fall this year from last year's record net profits of \$121m (£77m).

The first half has been hit by lower sales of tape to original equipment manufacturers, although TDK's own brand sales have been higher than expected.

But the growth in own brand products was not enough to offset the lower sales to manufacturers, said Mr Katsuro Kamiya, TDK's executive vice president, speaking in London yesterday.

However, he expected to see a substantial improvement in the second half with reduced price competition, higher sales to manufacturers and aggressive marketing.

He said: "Therefore we expect for the whole year to see a further increase in sales although there might be some decline in earnings."

By next year TDK should again be improving profits at a rate of 10 to 15 per cent a year.

The recently postponed Euro-bond issue will be made when the dollar market improves. TDK is already listed outside Japan in several financial centres.

Japanese exports of video tape recorders to the European Community fell 35 per cent last month after Japan's pledge in February to limit them.

Toys cheer up arts lossmaker

By Jeremy Warner Behind an apparently disastrous plunge in the yearly pretax profits of Fine Art Developments from £4.4m to £1.7m lies a success story.

It is called Early Learning, a retailing chain of 22 shops selling educational toys which more than doubled its profits last year to perhaps £300,000. It is currently opening shops at the rate of one a week and is aiming to have more than 42 shops by the year end.

Fine Art Developments Year to 31.3.83 Pretax profit £1.66m (£4.41m)...

Its success lies partly in the way Fine Art uses its network of mail order agents to tell it whether a shop will be viable in a particular area. That formula

could double the chain's profits again this year.

In the shop's traditional business of cards was up last year, but straight forward mail order was not. The company blames its performance on lack of orders for "frivolous giftware."

To halt the decline it will this year for the first time do a double mailing of catalogues to improve sales. At the same time it has closed two warehouses

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Derrand Stamping Year to 25.2.83 Pretax loss, £213,000 (£88,000 profit)...

R H P Group Half-year to 1.4.83 Pretax loss, £899,000 (£80,000 profit)...

John Carr (Doncaster) Half-year to 31.3.83 Pretax profit, £3.02m (£2m)...

National Commercial Banking Corp. of Australia (Figures in Australian currency) Half-year to 31.3.83...

Brockhouse Year to 31.03.83 Pretax loss, £795,000 (£814,000 loss)...

Allied Leather Industries Year to 31.12.82 Pretax profit, £375,000 (£1.34m)...

Davenport Knitwear Year to 31.12.82 Pretax profit, £261,000 (£793,000)...

London Sumatra Plantations Year to 31.12.82 Pretax profit, £5.26m (£6.88m)...

Phillip Hill Investment Trust Year to 31.3.83 Pretax profit, £1.48m (£1.29m)...

THOMAS MARSHALL (LOXLEY) P.L.C.

(Manufacturers of Carbon, Fireclay, and Heat Insulating Refractories)

Salient points from the circulated Statement of the Chairman, Mr J. R. Gledhill, on the year ended 31st December, 1982.

* Demand in the Iron and Steel Industries fell in the later months to levels lower than in the early 1980's, and it is with great regret that I have to report that the Group incurred a first ever annual loss.

* The cost of rationalisation will continue at a heavy rate in 1983 but we have adequate resources to sustain the Group over this difficult period.

* Our calculations indicate a return to profitability during the second-half of 1983.

Table with 3 columns: RESULTS IN BRIEF, Year ended 31/12/82, and £. Rows include Turnover, (Loss) before tax, and Dividends paid.

MARSHALL REFRACTORIES

STORRS BRIDGE WORKS, LOXLEY, SHEFFIELD

Base Lending Rates

Table of base lending rates for various banks including ABN Bank, Barclays, BCCI, etc.

Granville & Co Limited. (Formerly M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited)

27/28 Lovat Lane, London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212 The Over-the-Counter Market

Table of share prices for various companies like Ass Brit Ind Ord, Ass Brit Ind CULS, etc.

Prices now available on Prestel, page 43146

Abridged Particulars Application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the grant of permission to deal in the Ordinary Shares issued and now being issued of Renishaw plc in the Unlisted Securities Market.

RENISHAW plc (Incorporated in England under the Companies Acts 1948 to 1967 - No. 1106260)

Offer for Sale by Tender by Lloyds Bank International Limited of 2,800,000 Ordinary Shares of 5p each at a minimum tender price of 80p per share, the price tendered being payable in full on application

Table showing Share Capital: Authorised £1,750,000 and Issued and now being issued fully paid £1,400,000.

Renishaw carries on the design, development and manufacture of its own range of high-technology precision measuring equipment which is sold worldwide. Exports in the year ended 30th June, 1982 represented over 80 per cent of total sales; over 50 per cent of products sold were exported to the U.S.A. and Japan.

Full details of Renishaw and of this Offer for Sale, together with a Form of Application, are contained in the Prospectus, copies of which may be obtained in London from:

- List of agents for the offer: Lloyds Bank International Limited, Lloyds Bank Plc, Rowe & Pitman, etc.

The Prospectus for this Offer for Sale is also being published in full, together with a Form of Application, in today's Financial Times. The application list for the Ordinary Shares now being offered for sale will open at 10.00 a.m. on Thursday, 2nd June, 1983 and may be closed at any time thereafter.

London United Investments Public Limited Company

year ended 31st December 1982 1981

Table of financial performance for London United Investments, including Turnover, Operating profit, Group overheads, etc.

London United Investments P.L.C. reports that 1982 was another successful year for the Group.

Pretax profits rose 12.7% to £4,315,000 and a final dividend of 6p per share will be paid on 1st July, 1983 which together with the interim dividend of 5p per share already paid totals 11p for the year.

The Group has also announced a 1 for 3 Rights Issue of 2,940,640 shares of 20p each at 175p per share to raise approximately £4.9m net of expenses. The new shares will not rank for the final dividend for the year to 31st December, 1982 but will rank for the interim dividend to be declared in September 1983.

Copies of the Report and Accounts and of the Rights Issue circular may be obtained from the Secretary at 12/13 Lime Street, London EC3M 7AA.

COMMODITIES

LONDON METAL EXCHANGES

Table of metal prices including Copper, Tin, Lead, Zinc, etc.

L.M.E. TURNOVER

Table of L.M.E. turnover figures for various metals.

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES

Table of commodity prices for items like Rubber, Sugar, etc.

SUGAR'S DAYS CLOSE

Table of sugar prices for different grades.

INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM EX-

Table of international petroleum prices for various grades.

GRAIN

Table of grain prices for wheat, barley, etc.

MEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSIONS

Table of meat and livestock prices for various types.

LONDON GOLD FUTURES

Table of gold futures prices for different months.

The Beauford Group

Table of financial results for The Beauford Group for 1982 and 1981.

From the statement by the Chairman, Mr. G. Crawford: The year has been a successful one with turnover increasing by 39% to a record £7.5 million.

Conditions overall continue to be tough, and our expectation is of lower profits for 1983. Looking beyond the immediate future, however, I remain convinced that our company possesses expertise and more effective use of money have combined to keep the interest charge below that for the first half of last year, leaving the Group with a profit before tax of £728,000.

The major reduction in size of our tyre manufacturing business, announced in October last year, is now substantially complete. Despite the continuance of intense competition, the Tyre Company made a profit. The Group's recovery is expected to continue in the second half, with good performance from the other companies.

An interim dividend of 1p per share on the 6,637,500 £1 Ordinary Shares, which will amount to £66,375, will be paid on 11th July 1983 to shareholders on the register at 12 noon on 17th June 1983.

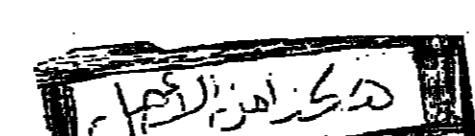
The half year dividend on the 500,000 4.5p £1 Cumulative Preference Shares will be paid at the rate of 2.25p per share on 30th June 1983 to shareholders on the register at 12 noon on 15th June 1983. The cost will be £11,250.

Table of financial performance for Avon Rubber p.l.c. for 1982 and 1981.

Note 1 The charge for taxation arises on profits in overseas companies and Advance Corporation Tax written off.

Note 2 Extraordinary Items: Closure and disposal of Avon Bridgend Redundancy and other costs arising from reorganisation.

Avon Rubber p.l.c. Melksham, Wiltshire, SN12 8AA Telephone (0225) 703101



هكذا من راصد

APPOINTMENTS

Scottish Provident names chief

Mr Gerald H. Elliot has been named chairman of Scottish Provident in succession to Mr James A. Lumsden...

Mr M. Hughes is to join the board of Linread as chief executive with overall operational responsibility in Britain and overseas...

At Mercantile Credit, the finance house subsidiary of Barclays Bank, Mr Brian Morris becomes executive director...

The Rt Hon Christopher Chataway has been made a non-executive director of a new exporting company within Plessey Telecommunications & Office Systems...

Williamsburg 4: White House aims to avoid confrontation and acrimony

America prepares for a summit without winners or losers

President Reagan had wanted this weekend's economic summit to come as close to a fire side chat as possible...

As the final countdown approaches, US officials are almost ready to breathe a sigh of relief...

If all these conditions are met, the US will judge the ninth annual summit at Williamsburg, Virginia, a decided success.

Every precaution has been taken in recent weeks, to ensure that there will be no winners or losers at Williamsburg...

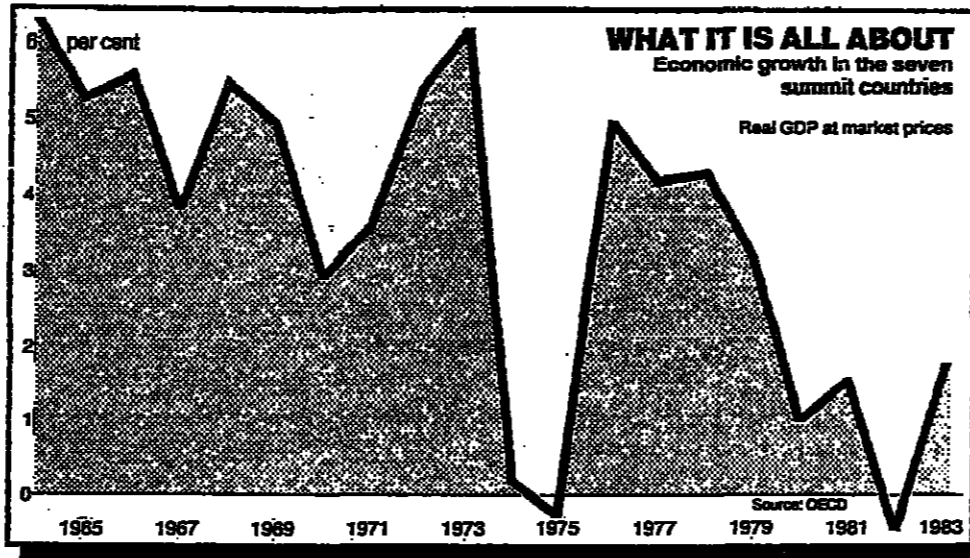
"If Williamsburg goes as we expect, it will be a 'dog bites man' story, not the more dramatic 'man bites dog' story...

Until recently, however, when it became apparent that President Reagan's insistence on an informal, "fireside chat" approach to the summit had to be altered...

The US notion that seven heads of states from the west's most powerful nations and the European Community could meet in one room to resolve their differences without an agenda or the prospect of a final communique was found wanting.

Word leaked out from the few preparatory sessions that the atmosphere among the "sherpas" from the seven summit governments was not good.

The public statements of head of states reflected sharp differences over economic and trade policies.



more formal process similar to those which shaped the eight previous summits.

A paper, outlining a broad basis for agreement on a variety of contentious issues including exchange rates, economic recovery, high deficits and high interest rates, protectionism, and more, was circulated to all delegations and was generally approved.

It, in effect set an agenda and narrowed differences to the point that it is possible to achieve "face-saving results for all. Even though there will be no final communique, as such, there will now be a final 'agreement' which is a looser form of communique drafted on the spot rather than months before, as has been traditional.

Disunity works only to the advantage of the East

None the less, the bureaucratic preparatory process which has become a fine diplomatic art since the first summit was held at Rambouillet in France in 1975, was finally unloosed.

Mr Hormats said at a recent pre-summit conference sponsored by the European Community that the "nice low-key" envisioned by President Reagan was very likely to "erupt when the principals actually sat down at the table and began to discuss the issues."

At this summit, more than at any other, the domestic philosophies of leaders "are further apart than they have been," making spontaneous agreement on a common approach to world problems almost impossible, Mr Hormats said.

The preparatory process is, therefore, essential to summits if only to "weed out issues which cannot be resolved" and to pinpoint those where there can be agreement, he said.

It was in the interest of presenting a united western front to the rest of the world that the US reluctantly agreed to accept this advice from numerous diplomats.

This show of western solidarity among heads of state of Britain, France, Italy, West Germany, Japan, Canada, the US and the European Community has been a primary American aim from the beginning.

President Reagan has apparently adopted the view, advanced most recently by Lord Carrington, that disunity in the West, as manifested by last year's Soviet pipeline dispute, works only to the advantage of the East.

The American strategy then, as outlined in the proposed "white paper" which surfaced two weeks ago, and in official briefings, is to produce a document in which heads of state will outline their commitment to pursue anti-inflationary policies which will sustain long term recovery.

"It is important that this recovery be worldwide, that it be non-inflationary and that it be sustained. This is the bottom line and the central challenge at Williamsburg," said Mr

Donald Regan, the US Treasury Secretary.

Within this context, unemployment would also be on the agenda because without significant gains in fighting unemployment "there will be no sustained recovery," Mr Regan said.

Another primary US goal is a general commitment from the seven summit nations and the European Community to fight protectionism by pursuing specific ways to eliminate subsidies and the growing number of barriers to free trade.

In return for a strong show of support on these issues, the US

Doing too little is as dangerous as expecting too much

is prepared to make a few slight concessions of its own, including a recognition in the final agreement that big federal deficits and high interest rates, a condition which now exists in America, can retard the recovery.

If the French insist, the US will support a proposal that preparatory work begin on a new Bretton Woods-type conference to revise the international monetary system. On this point, the US stresses the "preparatory" aspect of agreement, noting that these sorts of conferences require three or more years to orchestrate properly.

The US will also seek a

general sort of declaration of the need to maintain unity within the alliance on political and economic relations with the Soviet bloc.

In all these areas, however, there are no great hopes that the summit will produce bold solutions to the pressing problems of the day.

Perhaps French President Francois Mitterrand summed it up when he told French reporters this week that he expects little to emerge from Williamsburg and that he could just as well stay at home.

Some high-level Reagan Administration officials said, however, that if the summit does nothing more than project a low-key level of general agreement on important issues at the same time it recognizes differences among western nations, it will have been a success.

"During these depressed times, if you can hold the system together and not let it sink under protectionism and debt, you have done something important", a White House official said.

But Mr Hormats, again speaking at a summit veteran, said there was also great danger in doing too little at summit.

"The danger of doing too little is just as dangerous as expecting too much. A summit which produces no real results and fails to address the issues becomes meaningless. It loses relevance and becomes a missed opportunity", Mr Hormats said.

President Mitterrand has said that based on the results achieved at this year's summit, he will take a decision on whether to participate in future summits, thus echoing the view of some officials that they are becoming meaningless.

But Mr Wallis, as the head US "sherpa", said at a pre-summit briefing for reporters that he expected this year's conference to be more constructive because it will not attempt to "paper over differences" among heads of state.

"The pre-negotiated communique at Versailles which will not happen at Williamsburg, the agreement written by the 'sherpas' is likely to say we've made progress in reducing our differences but some still remain in these specific areas", Mr Wallis said.

As this occurs, it is quite likely, indeed probable, that the heads of state will commission one or more studies to try and lay a foundation for resolving the differences in the future. "That would be progress and is something summits can do," Mr Wallis said.

Industrial notebook

Quiet flows the trade deficit

The story may lack the electoral impact of a Zimovlev Letter, but one cannot help feeling that the popular press has missed an opportunity by failing to expose the great Bolshevik petrol scandal - as it will doubtless come to be called.

This is the curious but undeniable fact that, although the North Sea has made Britain self-sufficient in oil, we continue to run a hefty trade deficit with the Soviet Union - and all because our refineries insist on importing significant quantities of Russian crude oil to manufacture into petrol and other products from the British market.

Even if you do not mind running your car on Mr Andropov's petrol, President Reagan certainly does object - and whatever your views on last year's Soviet Gas pipeline furore, his case surely deserves some consideration.

The facts are not in dispute, but the figures are still striking. According to the official trade statistics, Britain had a trade deficit with the Soviet Union last year of £289m. This is the largest deficit in memory, says the Department of Trade, and probably a record.

Britain has certainly been in the red with the Soviet Union for seven of the last eight years, since North Sea oil started flowing.

Growth in crude oil imports

Far and away the single most important reason for this running deficit has been the growth in imports of Soviet crude oil and products. In money terms, these have grown from £179m in 1980 to £427m last year, when they accounted for more than two thirds of our total Russian import bill of £645m.

The first quarter figure this year is £100m, so the pace is being maintained. Our annual Russian oil import bill alone is now greater than the total value of Britain's annual exports to the Soviet Union.

Needless to say, although Britain is now the world's fifth largest producer of oil and we are exporting surplus North Sea output at a net rate of about 600,000 barrels a day, none of it is going to the Soviet Union or to Comecon countries.

According to the Petroleum Industries Association, imports of Russian crude oil jumped from 290,000 tonnes in 1980 to 1,840 million tonnes

last year, equivalent to slightly more than 2 per cent of total British oil needs.

This was, in fact, still less than was imported from the Soviet Union in the peak year of 1977, when crude and refinery feedstock imports totalled 3.3 million tonnes. Rising oil prices have magnified the value of the trade as it has built up in the last few years.

There is no secret about how or why the oil has been reaching Britain: it is our old friend market forces. The Soviet Union is the world's largest oil producer, and despite having to supply the needs of most of Eastern Europe, it has regularly managed to squeeze about 10 per cent of its annual production out of the beseeching hands of its consumers and onto the world market, where it can earn badly needed dollars.

Russians are now competitive traders

Total oil exports have edged up by a third in the last three years, much to the discomfort of Opec, among others.

As with their dealings in gold, diamonds and hard currency, the Russians have become keen and highly competitive traders of oil. Much of their oil is sold at spot-related rather than official prices, which recently has meant it has been available relatively cheaply.

With their counterparts in several European countries, Britain's now much more market-conscious refiners have been snapping it up to blend with their North Sea oil, which is how it ends up in motorists' petrol tanks. Britain is however the only oil producing nation that imports oil from behind the Iron Curtain.

So free trade rules. But does it really meet the needs of common sense? As Williamsburg this weekend will show, Europeans are distinctly dubious of the wisdom of Mr Reagan's desire to freeze East/West trade for wider political ends. It is a complex, global argument nevertheless, allowing the Russians to get away with the equivalent of selling sand to Saudi Arabia without any appreciable return will surely strike the man in the Ford Cortina as having little or no logic - and who can say he is wrong?

Jonathan Davis

A broking first for women's bank

New York (NYT) - In a new twist in the growing relationships between banks and discount brokerage firms, Muriel Siebert & Co has opened a branch in the First Women's Bank, the first time a discount brokerage firm has opened branch in a commercial bank.

Miss Muriel Siebert, the

former New York State banking superintendent, said that First Women's would get a share of the commissions generated by sales and purchases of stock.

Other banks have recently established ties with discount brokerage firms, but in these arrangements the banks' personnel take the orders and

execute them through the affiliated brokerage firm.

Miss Siebert, who was the first woman to become a member of the New York Stock Exchange, said that in contrast to most other bank-broker relationships, customers of the brokerage branch would not be required to open an account at the bank.

PRIVATE PATIENTS PLAN 1982 RESULTS

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It is with renewed pride and encouragement that I report on the PPP group's results for 1982: pride in reviewing the development begun over forty years ago by the founders of our organisation; encouragement from the quickening interest in private health care and medical insurance shown by the government and others, particularly by our 80,000 new subscribers.

Membership. The subscriber population grew by a net 4,000 (12%) to 394,000.

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Our success in these financial aims is shown by the following: subscription income in 1982 grew by £18m (34%) to £70m - a record level; income from subscriptions virtually broke even with the expenditure on meeting subscribers' claims plus administrative costs; net income from investments and realised capital gains was £4.2m, the highest so far achieved in any year; the group's reserves at market value rose by 43% to £42.7m.

Other Developments. One means of strengthening our organisation is to diversify and we are considering how, in the case of the PPP group, we can learn from our three recent ventures, viz. our association with the London Diagnostic and Imaging Centre, our ownership of the PPP Medical Centre and the formation of Private Patients Plan Limited in Hong Kong. During 1982, the throughput of clients at the two Centres developed encouragingly and a good foothold was established in the fast-growing Hong Kong market, which we entered in April 1982.

We look forward to securing a contribution to our overhead costs from such ventures. They also allow us to extend the PPP service to existing and additional subscribers and indeed, in the two Centres, to people who need not be medical insurance subscribers at all.

Care for the Elderly. As has been emphasised elsewhere, some of our subscribers have had that service from us for forty years and we are proud to know that they continue to look to PPP for help in time of need. Amongst our membership, we have 60,000 aged 65 or more but, of that striking total, nearly 1,000 are aged 85 or more. We even have 37 subscribers aged over 95. Critics of the private sector, ignoring such facts and that 20,000 elderly people daily receive care in private nursing homes, often accuse us of disregard for the elderly. Many people think it wrong that someone over the age of 64 cannot enrol afresh for medical insurance. Now we at PPP have decided to meet the demand for a scheme that can be afforded by many of the people who have retired from employment and it will be open to anyone up to the age of 74 to join. This will once again be a 'first' for PPP, since no other company has a scheme designed especially for this hitherto neglected part of the community.



J.F. Phillips C.B.E., LL.M., Q.C. Chairman.

Private Patients Plan The Provident Association for Medical Care Limited, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 2PL (0892) 40111.

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In the year ended 30th November, 1982 TDK's consolidated net sales and net earnings amounted to ¥304,490 million (\$1,268.7 million) and ¥29,213 million (\$121.7 million) respectively.

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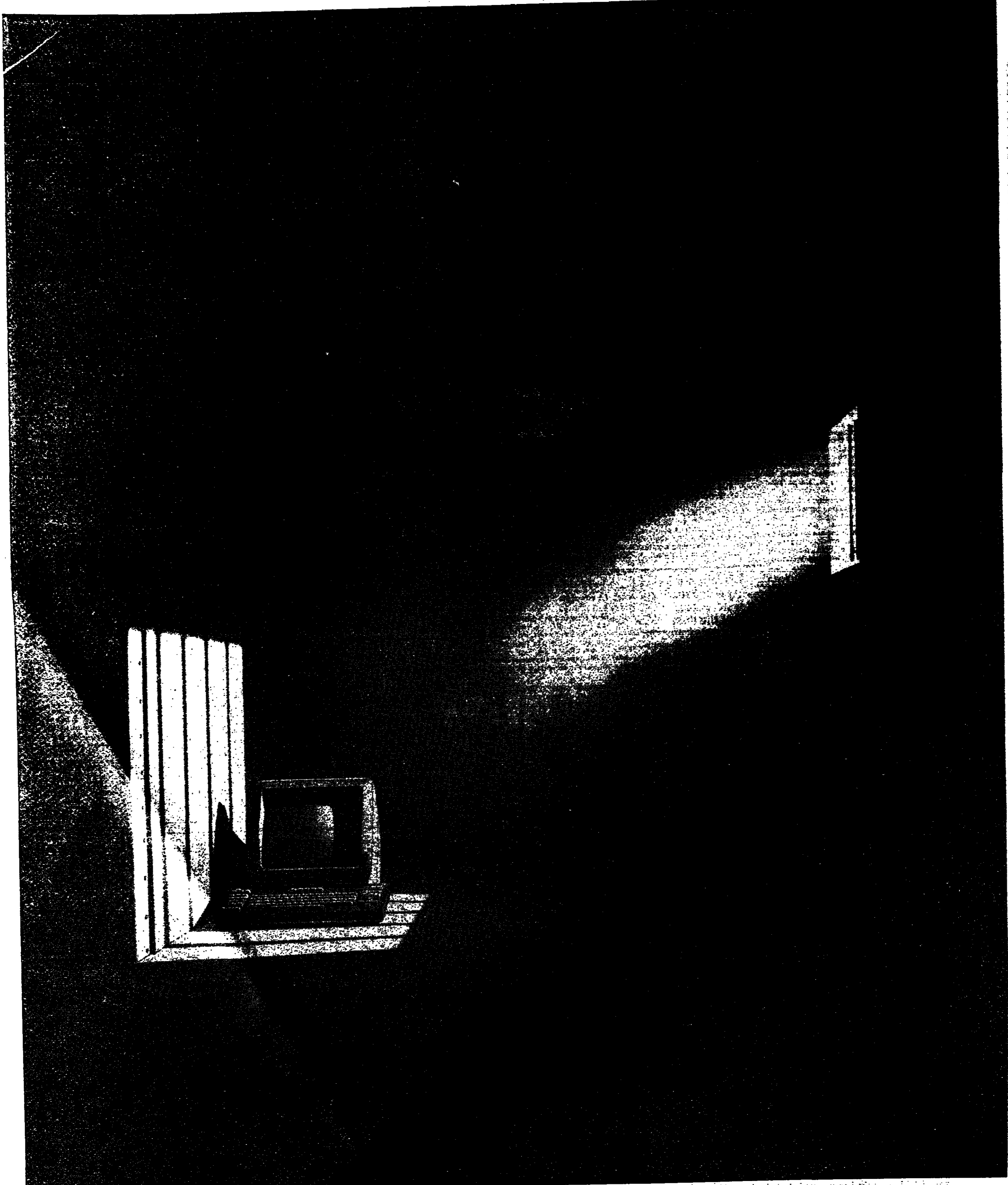
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FOOTBALL: THE QUIET SOLOIST WHO ORCHESTRATED VICTORY OVER THE VIRTUOSI OF JUVENTUS

Magath shows what the world is missing

Athens (Reuter) - When the Jeweller gets round to engraving the European Cup he could do worse than inscribe it: "1983 - Hamburg (and Felix Magath)". Magath, aged 29, joined the competition's list of all-time greats at the Olympic Stadium here on Wednesday with a virtuoso performance which left Juventus, of Italy, looking strictly second fiddle. Hamburg's 1-0 victory, which took the cup back to West Germany for the first time since Bayern Munich completed their three triumphs in 1976, was due almost entirely to Magath, and not just for his eighth-minute cup-winning goal. His was a spellbinding display highlighted by a 25-yard left-foot shot. The ball dipped, spun, swerved and did everything but whistle "Zorba the Greek" on its way to the back of the net, leaving Dino Zoff in goal mesmerized. Magath has every reason to look back on his night's work with the utmost satisfaction. For sitting among the 75,000 spectators was Jupp Derwall, the West German national team manager, who chose to ignore Magath's rare midfield artistry during the World Cup in Spain last summer. Many still feel that if Magath had given a prolonged run in Spain instead of one appearance on the left wing West Germany



"Felix Magath" cup temporarily in the possession of Hrubesch (left) and Jacobs

Joy, Hamburgers and champagne

Hamburg, (Reuter) - Hamburg flew home to an ebullient welcome yesterday following their 1-0 victory over Juventus of Italy in the European Cup final in Athens on Wednesday night. A crowd of about 5,000 supporters waving the club's blue-and-white flags and soundings horns, crowded the observation terraces and cheered wildly as the captain, Horst Hrubesch, emerged from the plane holding aloft the trophy. The mayor of Hamburg, Klaus von Dohnanyi, presented the team with a mug of champagne. The celebrations of the West German press were unrestrained. "Hurrah - we've got the cup! Football friends in Germany, let's celebrate! Hamburg has won a memorable victory!" was the banner headline carried by the popular daily *Bild Zeitung* across yesterday's front page. Some commentators saw Hamburg's victory, the first by a German team since Bayern Munich's third consecutive win in 1976, as satisfying revenge for the national team's 3-1 defeat by Italy in last summer's World Cup final. But most stressed that Juventus lavished spending on foreign talent

From riches to ruins in Athens

Athens (Agencies) - Not surprisingly, after the defeat of Juventus in the European Cup final here on Wednesday evening, it seems likely that the Italian champions will have to rebuild their team if they are to achieve their ambition of winning the trophy. Having spent the best part of £4m on Paolo Rossi, Michel Platini and Zbigniew Boniek, the only thing the Italians have proved is that money cannot always buy success. The President of the Italian Football Federation called Juventus' performance "The worst performance by any Italian team in a European final", and the Juventus manager, Giovanni Trapattoni, quietly agreed. Trapattoni, who collected two European Cup winners' medals with AC Milan in the 1960s, now looks certain to rip up his team sheet. But he may have to be quick about it since he himself could well be replaced. Bettega was Juventus' best player until he tired in the second half, but he has played his last game for Juventus. He is moving to Toronto Blizzard and others who may leave the Stadio Comunale include Rossi and Boniek. It has been an open secret in the Juventus headquarters this week that they would not stand in Rossi's way if he wanted a move. Rossi floated on the periphery of the action in the final and Boniek, too,

was but a shadow of the player who excited in Spain. Boniek was the dominant player at Widzew Lodz, but at Juventus he is just one of a number of world-class players and he has never really settled in. Perhaps his best game was against Aston Villa, at Villa Park, in the quarter-final. Juventus' veteran goalkeeper, Dino Zoff, who is now 41, may also be missing next season. There was talk before the final that Juventus had made an offer for Zoff's international understudy, Ivano Verdini, of Internazionale. Immediately, the word went round that Zoff would continue for one more season. But on Wednesday's night's display, it is time he quit. Such is the pressure on Trapattoni that this season must be considered a failure. Juventus have surrendered the League championship to Roma and meet the same club again in the quarter-finals of the Italian cup. Should Juventus lose, they will then have to be content with a place in next year's UEFA cup, a poor reward for a club which has set its heart on becoming champions of Europe. ROME: Press reaction to Juventus' defeat ranged from the muted, predictably, optimistic and the hysterical. The *Corriere dello Sport*, which manages to devote at least six pages to soccer news seven

World Cup draw in March

Zurich (Reuter) - The draw for the 1986 World Cup qualifying competition has been tentatively set for March next year, the International Football Federation (FIFA) said yesterday. FIFA's general secretary, Joseph Blatter, said this would enable matches to start after the final of the European Championships in Paris on June 27. Mr Blatter said he expected FIFA to commission their practice of grouping countries on the strength of their international performances in Europe's case performance in the European Championship providing a guide. He added that the 1986 World Cup organizing committee would meet for the first time in Mexico City on June 17. Mexico was awarded the 1986 finals at a FIFA executive committee meeting in Stockholm last Friday. Mr Blatter ruled out any early meeting with the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to continue the stalled talks on player eligibility for next year's Olympic finals. TAMPA (Reuter) - Manchester City beat Tampa Bay Rowdies of the North American Soccer League 1-0 in the opening game of the four-team Sunshine International Tournament. Twest scored in the thirty-third minute for City, who are returning to the second division after an absence of 17 years. Leicester City's defender, John O'Neill, is almost certain to miss tomorrow's British Championship match against England at Windsor Park, Belfast, with strained right ankle ligaments. He twisted the ankle in the scoresless draw with Scotland at Hampden Park on Tuesday.

Scot signs for Chelsea

Joe McLaughlin, the Morton centre half, has been sold to Chelsea for £30,000. He leaves Cappielow Park having made more than 200 appearances in the league and 12 for the Scottish under-21 side. Joining him at Chelsea will be Clyde's Scotland youth international, Pat Nevin. Eddie Niedzwiedz, the Wrexham goalkeeper, has also been signed by the London club, for £35,000. Malcolm Allison, the Middlesbrough manager, wants to sign the Chelsea forward, Bryan Robson. Allison, who has transferred Shearer and Hankin, said: "Robson could do an excellent short-term job for us and be a big influence on our young players." Steve Jacobs, of Coventry City, yesterday became the fifth player to reject the club's new contract terms. The manager, Bobby Gould, confirmed he had received a written rejection from Jacobs, substituted in the second half.

CYCLING

A day for British riders to forget

British riders will remember the fourth day of the Milk Race as a difficult one that they will be glad to have behind them. It began with a testing 88 miles of treading through the narrow lanes of Essex and Suffolk, a stage won delightfully by Denis Felizzari of France, and ended last night with 20 laps around a closed one-mile circuit in the streets of Ipswich. Things looked black for the British professionals in the afternoon, when Felizzari, a former from the Pyrenees, and Kevostav Palov, a Czechoslovakian student, went through Sudbury, Gainsborough's birthplace, with a lead of more than four minutes. The two riders had been out in the wind for 40 miles after getting together at Boreham, 28 miles from the start in Harlow. Just 20 miles remained, and the Czechoslovakian team was performing a successful blocking operation, hampering the international chasing efforts of the two overall leading teams, West Germany and the British professionals. Palov, who is lying second in the climbers competition, was the leader on the road at this point, only two minutes behind the overnight leader, Peter Becker, from West Berlin. The professionals, with Wednesday's winner Phil Boyton prominent, set about reducing the deficit because the German amateurs did not seem up to the task. The gap was cut to 2 mins 30 sec with five miles remaining, when the professionals' team leader, Tony Doyle, received a puncture. Three of his colleagues waited to pace him back, leaving Sean Yates to lead out Sid Barras for the eventual sprint for third place and its time bonus of 10 seconds. Felizzari easily outpaced the Czechoslovakian to win the stage, but only one minute later made other 60 riders arrive, which just it back to the main bunch just before the finish, and demonstrated his great strength by working his way through to take fourth place in the sprint (sixth on the stage). This sprint was won significantly by Malcolm Elliott of Great Britain, Amateurs, who seems to have the confidence that makes him a potential winner of this magnificent Milk Race. Elliott pipped the year-old Barras - "I definitely haven't got the speed, I just 'ave" - and Becker, who retains his yellow jersey. Not so fortunate were Mark Bell, the former British amateur champion, and Jean-Luc Morel, of France, who were both brought down on the last corner, when a Polish rider fell. RESULTS: Stage 4A, Harlow to Ipswich, 88 miles: 1. D Felizzari (Fr), 2. M Bell (GB), 3. J Barras (GB), 4. S Barras (GB), 5. P Becker (West Berlin), 6. J Morel (Fr), 7. M Elliott (GB), 8. P Doyle (GB), 9. W Kevostav (Czech), 10. M Palov (Czech), 11. S Yates (GB), 12. S Barras (GB), 13. M Elliott (GB), 14. S Barras (GB), 15. M Bell (GB), 16. J Barras (GB), 17. M Bell (GB), 18. M Bell (GB), 19. M Bell (GB), 20. M Bell (GB). OVERALL: 1. Becker, 15th 27min 02sec; 2. Felizzari, 16th 27min 02sec; 3. Bell, 17th 27min 02sec; 4. Barras, 18th 27min 02sec; 5. Doyle, 19th 27min 02sec; 6. Barras, 20th 27min 02sec; 7. Barras, 21st 27min 02sec; 8. Barras, 22nd 27min 02sec; 9. Barras, 23rd 27min 02sec; 10. Barras, 24th 27min 02sec; 11. Barras, 25th 27min 02sec; 12. Barras, 26th 27min 02sec; 13. Barras, 27th 27min 02sec; 14. Barras, 28th 27min 02sec; 15. Barras, 29th 27min 02sec; 16. Barras, 30th 27min 02sec.

GOLF

Challenge to Faldo

Nick Faldo attempts to win a record fourth tournament in succession in the £90,000 Sun Alliance PGA championship, which starts at Royal St. George's today. Faldo, who has won the French Open, the Martini international and the Car Care Plan international during the last three weeks, is also chasing his fourth PGA title, having won in 1978, 1980 and 1981. Founded in 1887, the Royal St. George club is steeped in tradition and recognized as a golfing haven. As Bernard Darwin once wrote, it is "as near my idea of heaven as it is to be attained on any earthly links." It was at Royal St. George's that J. H. Taylor, in 1894, won the first Open championship to be held outside Scotland. His aggregate was 326. It can be stated with some confidence that the winner this week will require to score closer to the 276, four under par, than the Bill Rogers posted to win the Open in 1981. In his current form, Faldo must feel confident of accumulation the right figures. He is 31 under par for the tournament rounds he has completed since returning from the United States. He will, however, be compelled to play a different game since a strong northerly wind has dried the course and the forecasters say that the weather will remain settled but windy in this corner of Kent. So the bump-and-run shot will be vital, and even Faldo was surprised when his tee shot to the short third in the pro-am yesterday bounced 10 feet into the air. The opposition to Faldo will include the Australian, Greg Norman, who three weeks ago today underwent a cartilage operation Norman entered hospital early in the morning and he emerged on crutches later that same day. It is not so long ago that a cartilage operation would have removed a minimum of three months from a sportsman's career. Now, with laser surgery, Norman is back on the fairways without a scar to show, although his stamina will be severely tested. Severiano Ballesteros, Sandy Lyle and Bernhard Langer, who was runner-up to Rogers in 1981, also compete in what promises to be an enthralling bank holiday weekend for golf spectators. More golf, page 24

Westland - technology working.

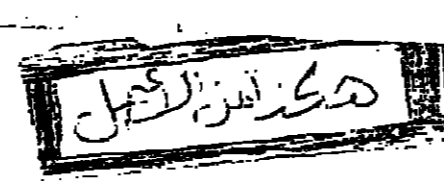
Westland - technology working to meet the competitive challenges of the world's markets - markets that are becoming progressively more difficult. The Westland response is to make major investment in new product developments. Westland 30 - Britain's new award-winning civil and military transport helicopter, already in service with British Airways and Airspur of Los Angeles. Westland 30 was financed by the Company and has now been reinforced by H.M. Government who, accepting its competitive strength, have provided further investment to support the development of derivatives. Lynx 3 - The newest and most advanced development of the Team Lynx range of military helicopters. A high technology battlefield helicopter with day or night all weather capability. EH 101 - The product of a collaborative venture between Westland and Agusta of Italy. Full development approval by the governments of the U.K. and Italy is expected during 1983 for this anti-submarine, tactical utility and civil helicopter with a world market potential approaching 1,000 helicopters. Development of EH 101 will be funded jointly by industry and government in Britain and Italy. AP 188 - The world's first diesel-powered amphibious hovercraft with a 100 seat civil capacity and high suitability for numerous military roles. Now in passenger service with Hovertravel in U.K., this cost-effective and low noise hovercraft capitalises on Westland advanced skirt technology and is already the subject of worldwide interest. Composite blades - A major advance in the development of helicopter technology. Composite rotor blades will directly replace metal blades, have a much longer life and considerably reduce maintenance and operating costs. The initial production is for the Westland Sea King but the new blades are applicable to the Sea King range of helicopters which are in worldwide service from several manufacturers. Westland Aerospace Division is responsible for composite blades business, one of a wide range of products developed from the Westland technology base.

Westland

Yeovil, England.

Westland Review 82 illustrates technology working across the full range of our activities; if you would like a copy please write to the company.

Westland plc Westland Helicopters, British Hovercraft, Normair-Garrett and the Westland Technologies Division, comprising Westland Engineers, FPT Industries, Saunders-Roe Developments, Helicopter Services, Westland EMG and Westland-Sitec, E.H. Industries (jointly with Agusta of Italy)



SPORT

CRICKET

Shepherd ready to be led into the England fold

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent

EDGEMONT: Warwickshire... playing outswingers with the inside edge did Old meet any resistance.

Once Old had run up against Shepherd... He looked at the batsman and the wicket-keeper.

WICKET: Warwickshire... playing outswingers with the inside edge did Old meet any resistance.

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Hitting out: Lancashire's Lloyd drives for the boundary, as wicketkeeper Richards and Knight look on

Tail-enders frustrate Surrey

By Richard Streeton

THE OVAL: Surrey, with six second innings wickets in hand, lead Lancashire by 236 runs.

Each man pushed forward uncertainly to Pocock, who bowled with craft and control from the start.

At the start, in gloomy light, Lancashire nightwatchman Folley inflicted a first setback on Surrey by lingering for ninety-five minutes.

At 111, Daniel returned at the pavilion end and Jones, having just reached an admirably composed 50, drove his first ball somewhat casually into Barlow's hands.

Following on, Glamorgan were given little trouble, Alan Jones flashing at Cowans's second ball and quickly downing a simple catch.

Yorkshire checked by Williams

Richard Williams, an all-rounder aged 25, again outshone the more illustrious names in the Northamptonshire team when he hit a century.

Williams began by driving Sidebottom for seven fours, as he made 41 runs in seven overs, the spinners restrained him for a while.

Recovery that speaks volumes for Gottfried's experience

From Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent, Paris

Three women whose rankings suggested they would reach the last 16 of the singles were beaten a round earlier in the French championships yesterday.

Almost a year ago Fillo also acquired a new incentive. He had given substance to a dream by building a 12-court tennis club across the road from his home in Santiago.

Oliva's title defence

Santa Margherita Ligure, Italy

Italian champion, Patrizio Oliva, of Italy, will defend his title against Spain's Antonio Gimeno, at Ottaviano, near Naples, on June 19.

A mirage of British hope fades away

By John Hennessy, Golf Correspondent

So it was not to be. The amateur golfer of Britain and Ireland was ground down by the United States at Hoylake yesterday and so beaten for the 26th time in the Walker Cup match.

There was a time early in the afternoon when a mirage appeared. Experience spoke firmly in the course of that astonishing recovery. However, Gottfried's successful exercise in cliff-hanging was no more surprising than the fact that this professional, a fine sportsman who honours both the letter and spirit of the rules (and knows them inside out), was penalized.

YORKSHIRE v NORTHANTS

Table with columns for batting and bowling statistics for Yorkshire v Northants.

Leicestershire v Essex

Table with columns for batting and bowling statistics for Leicestershire v Essex.

YORKSHIRE: First Innings

Table with columns for batting and bowling statistics for Yorkshire: First Innings.

Leicestershire: First Innings

Table with columns for batting and bowling statistics for Leicestershire: First Innings.

OTHER MATCHES

Table with columns for batting and bowling statistics for other matches.

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ROWING

Oriel resist challenge

By Jim Railton

Oriel shrugged off the first real challenge to their leadership yesterday (Thursday) when Christ Church failed to make ground on them on the second day of the Oxford Rowing Regatta.

Table with columns for rowing team names and their positions in the regatta.

IN BRIEF

TABLE TENNIS: Carl Preen, aged 15, who returns to school when his summer's exploits are over, yesterday defeated the American who he is expected to retain his undisputed world middleweight title when he meets Wilford Scypion in Providence, Rhode Island, tonight.

MODERN PENTATHLON: Three nations learned yesterday that they are to take part in the Copenhagen international (June 18-22) in place of the senior team.

FOOTBALL: Fulham have decided to take no further action in their attempts to have their match against Derby County replayed.

BASEBALL: American League teams Mariners 2, Cleveland Indians 1; Milwaukee Brewers 7, Oakland Athletics 6; Minnesota Twins 7, Baltimore Orioles 3; Toronto Blue Jays 5, Kansas City Royals 5; Texas Rangers 6, Houston Astros 4; Detroit Tigers 4, San Diego Padres 3; New York Yankees 4, St. Louis Cardinals 2; Chicago White Sox 3, Philadelphia Phillies 1; Houston Astros 3, Oakland Athletics 2.

BASEBALL: European Championships: Netherlands 78, Israel 72; Greece 65, Sweden 61; West Indies 58, India 50.

GLIDING: MARLOWE 15-mile national championships: 2300m quarterfinal race to Silverdale, Leamington and Dorking: 50 entries, one finisher: 1. J. C. (RAF) 2. G. B. (RAF) 3. C. S. (RAF) 4. G. B. (RAF) 5. G. B. (RAF) 6. G. B. (RAF) 7. G. B. (RAF) 8. G. B. (RAF) 9. G. B. (RAF) 10. G. B. (RAF) 11. G. B. (RAF) 12. G. B. (RAF) 13. G. B. (RAF) 14. G. B. (RAF) 15. G. B. (RAF) 16. G. B. (RAF) 17. G. B. (RAF) 18. G. B. (RAF) 19. G. B. (RAF) 20. G. B. (RAF) 21. G. B. (RAF) 22. G. B. (RAF) 23. G. B. (RAF) 24. G. B. (RAF) 25. G. B. (RAF) 26. G. B. (RAF) 27. G. B. (RAF) 28. G. B. (RAF) 29. G. B. (RAF) 30. G. B. (RAF) 31. G. B. (RAF) 32. G. B. (RAF) 33. G. B. (RAF) 34. G. B. (RAF) 35. G. B. (RAF) 36. G. B. (RAF) 37. G. B. (RAF) 38. G. B. (RAF) 39. G. B. (RAF) 40. G. B. (RAF) 41. G. B. (RAF) 42. G. B. (RAF) 43. G. B. (RAF) 44. G. B. (RAF) 45. G. B. (RAF) 46. G. B. (RAF) 47. G. B. (RAF) 48. G. B. (RAF) 49. G. B. (RAF) 50. G. B. (RAF) 51. G. B. (RAF) 52. G. B. (RAF) 53. G. B. (RAF) 54. G. B. (RAF) 55. G. 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RACING: CONFIDENCE GROWS FOR THE LOCALLY-TRAINED KUWAIT TOWER

Mercer hopes to make it thirtieth time lucky

Hopes are high at Epsom that Joe Mercer can break his Derby hoodoo on Kuwait Tower next Wednesday. The stylish and polished horseman boasts a remarkable record of having ridden in 29 Derbys in an unbroken sequence, with two seconds and a third to his credit. Of the other jockeys in action today Lester Piggott has had the same number of mounts. But through the acknowledged master of the switchback course started three years earlier than Mercer when he finished unplaced on Zucchero back in 1951, he was a bystander in 1951 and 62 and again in 1982.

He will - my horse is the one that they all have to beat. I will be very disappointed if he fails to finish in the first three. The three-year-old delighted his trainer in his final gallop yesterday morning. "He went a good, hard ten furlongs with Joe on board. He told me that he felt a much stronger horse than last year."



Kuwait Tower: chance to become the first Epsom-trained horse to win the Derby since 1932

The adverse rumours about the cock robin. "The colt did not work too well on Saturday but I could not have been more pleased with the way he galloped on Wednesday."

Promising Brown waiting in the wings

The royal trainer Ian Balding is mystified about the lack of opportunities for his fine apprentice jockey Brown, last year's Crown Prince Two champion and successful yesterday on Ampersand at Brighton. Brown brought Ampersand home a three-quarter length winner from Ma Fiacre in the Park Top Fillies Handicap to receive Balding's Prize: "He rode a perfect race, he really is a very good young jockey."

First-choice Lions coming into focus

The British Lions play Manawatu tomorrow in a match which provides a final opportunity for inclusion in the first international. Within a few hours of the end of the game the All Blacks team will be named and the Lions should have a much clearer picture of whom they will field against New Zealand at Christchurch tomorrow week.

Haydock Park

Table of race results for Haydock Park, including draw advantages, low numbers best, and various race listings with odds and winners.

Sedgefield

Table of race results for Sedgefield, including draw advantages, low numbers best, and various race listings with odds and winners.

Ayr

Table of race results for Ayr, including draw advantages, low numbers best, and various race listings with odds and winners.

8.5 PRESTWICK STAKES (selling: £285: 1m) (9)

Table of race results for Prestwick Stakes, including draw advantages, low numbers best, and various race listings with odds and winners.

YACHTING

Skipperless Britain

Peter de Savary, chairman of the Victoria syndicate, yesterday defended his role as shore-based skippers of the British team in the America's Cup challenge for the American's Cup this summer.

Brighton results

Table of race results for Brighton, including draw advantages, low numbers best, and various race listings with odds and winners.

Carlisle

Table of race results for Carlisle, including draw advantages, low numbers best, and various race listings with odds and winners.

Ayr selections

Table of race selections for Ayr, listing race names, numbers, and selected horses.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Mr Fox formed Bentley Yarborough, a Doncaster amateur club, 20 years ago, and has been a tireless worker for the cause of amateur rugby league in an area of south Yorkshire where the game struggles against apathy and lack of success at senior level.

EQUESTRIANISM

The British Nations Cup meeting at Hickstead, sponsored by Everest Double Glazing, starts today. There has been no rain since Saturday and the going is good. Riders will be competing for more than £40,000 prize money in 120 to 65 miles, according to the hosts.

Pontefract

Table of race results for Pontefract, including draw advantages, low numbers best, and various race listings with odds and winners.

8.5 SYCAMORE STAKES (2-y-o fillies: £2,530: 5f) (12)

Table of race results for Sycamore Stakes, including draw advantages, low numbers best, and various race listings with odds and winners.

Looks fine on Loch Tyne

For the past couple of seasons, the Clyde Club has been near to attracting 200 entries for their Tomatin series based on Tarbert, Loch Tyne. This year they have achieved that target with ease, and when the first race started yesterday evening, 241 yachts carrying about 1,000 people sailed off for a night aloft.

Towcester

Table of race results for Towcester, including draw advantages, low numbers best, and various race listings with odds and winners.

Pontefract selections

Table of race selections for Pontefract, listing race names, numbers, and selected horses.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Kent Invicta, the Maidstone club, next season, have appointed Bob Fox, a Yorkshireman, as secretary. He joins them after long experience in amateur rugby league in Yorkshire.

EQUESTRIANISM

The ban on the transfer of players between Great Britain and Australia could be ended in time for next season. The council has proposed the ending of the ban as a motion before the meeting of the British and the next meeting of the board takes place in September, shortly after the start next season in Britain.

Countrysport magazine advertisement with logo and text: 'A QUALITY MAGAZINE. Most sportsmen we talk to are equally at home with both rod and gun. As the end of May they are to have their own magazine, dealing exclusively with their two favourite sports: game fishing and shooting.'

LEGAL NOTICE

THE BROKEN HILL PROPRIETARY COMPANY LIMITED

(Incorporated in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia)
B.H.P. House, 140 William Street, Melbourne, 3000

Pursuant to Section 534... of the Companies (Victoria) Code 1981... the intention of the Directors of The Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited, after the expiration of one month from the date hereof, to transfer to the Treasurer of Victoria for and on behalf of the undermentioned shareholders whose whereabouts the Company by exercise of reasonable diligence has not been able to discover for a period of not less than six (6) years the shares registered in their respective names.

Table with 5 columns: Name and Registered Address of Shareholder, Number of Shares, Name and Registered Address of Shareholders, Number of Shares, Name and Registered Address of Shareholders, Number of Shares. Lists various shareholders and their shareholdings.

Commercial property/Baron Phillips

Holborn lures firms from the City

Lawyers and accountants escaping from high rates and rents in the City are finding refuge in Holborn, giving the office market there something of a boost. The local market, bound by Farringdon Road, Fleet Street and Holborn, has suffered more than a fair share of depression over the past two or three years but, according to agents in the area, lettings are now picking up.

A firm of solicitors appears to be close to signing a lease on Clifford's Court in Fetter Lane, the 31,000 sq ft building developed by the off-shore fund Tandaco. It has been on the market for a year. Joint agents on the block are Weatherall Green & Smith and Price Raptor & Co, both of whom confirmed this week that a leasing for the whole building is now no far away. It has been suggested that the rent is about £15 a sq ft.

It is also understood that two other professional firms from the City have signed leases on the remaining 50,700 sq ft of offices in the former Lummus building at 100 Fetter Lane. Associated Press took most of the space in the development last year in a rather odd deal which involved Lummus repaying AP part of the initial rent. Although no rent has been disclosed for the remainder, it is understood to be in the £12-£13 a sq ft region, which gives some idea of how the local market is firming up.

Fetter Lane has been a hive of activity over the last six to nine months, where as much as 132,000 sq ft has been leased, mainly to accountants and solicitors at rents around £12 a sq ft. For example, solicitors D.J. Exman leased 28,000 sq ft in 43 Fetter Lane at a rent of just under £12 a sq ft while accountants Clark Whitehill rented the old National Bus Corporation space, amounting to 17,220 sq ft, in New Street Square.

While an increasing number of tenants are being signed up, there is a fair amount of new accommodation coming on to the market over the next few months. Already available is the Prudential block on the corner of Holborn and Gray's Inn Road. Offering almost 59,000 sq ft 150 Holborn is gathering a tremendous amount of interest, despite a rent of just under £16 a sq ft, and local agents expect an early letting.

Of course, the largest building to come on stream this summer will be Trafalgar House's Plumtree Court, the 184,000 sq ft redevelopment of the former Evening Standard building. Although it is a large slice of space to come on to the market at one go, Plumtree Court has the advantage of being divided into three separate and



Canada Life has completed its second direct British office development in Kingston upon Thames. Located in the heart of the town's conservation area, Berkeley House provides 15,690 sq ft of air conditioned offices on ground, and three upper floors together with parking for 30 cars. Joint letting agents Clive Lewis & Partners and Weatherall Green & Smith are asking £11.54 a sq ft rent.

self-contained buildings of 74,000 sq ft, 44,000 sq ft and 66,000 sq ft. But the Holborn market could be set for a hiccup if Kodak does go ahead and makes its 83,000 sq ft block available for either letting or sale. Somehow it seems improbable that less than three years after having bought the building at 190 High Holborn from European Ferries for £24.5m, the company would wish to relocate.

Apart from new developments during the last six months a further 41,700 sq ft around Ludgate Circus will land on the lettings market towards the end of the year when the Heron subsidiary NIG Corporation moves out of Citadel House in Fetter Lane and into the 78,000 sq ft building at 145 City Road early in 1984. NIG still has about 20 years of its 25 year lease still to run, so negotiations between the insurance group and the head lessor Lazzaris are underway.

But agents like Martin Henton at WG & S and Jason Salter at Price Raptor believe that Holborn offers an excellent location for professional firms. They are quietly confident that the pace of lettings around Holborn will speed up over the coming months, and much of the space which has been available for a year or more will be taken up.

Commercial property's period of recession may be over, according to a survey published this week which shows an upturn in rental values during the six months between November and May. The Investors Chronicle Hillier Parker Rent Index indicates an overall 3.5 per cent rise in commercial rental values during the period, marginally ahead of the previous six months.

Despite gloom over consumer spending, shop rents continue to lead the field with a 4.6 per cent increase which, although ahead of the period to November 1982, is the second lowest rise on record. But the greatest surge has been in office rents, with the rate of growth doubling since last November. Growth in central City of London locations is ahead of inflation, in spite of high availability. But in contrast, industrial rents remain flat and show little sign of any growth.

Reading's office market was given a lift this week when it was revealed that the British arm of the American finance Avco has finally leased Rockfords 24,310 sq ft Castle House development. It is believed Avco is paying £12.50 a sq ft for the striking building, which is to be renamed Avco House. Letting agents were Sprut & Parker and Gibson Eley, while the tenants were advised by Chilvers. The development, which is due for completion later this month, was financed by Cadbury Schweppes Pension Fund.

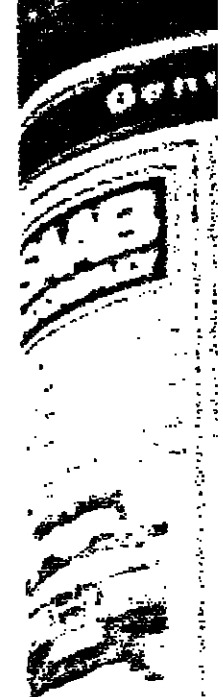
Jones Lang Wootton have been appointed letting agents for a 57,500 sq ft warehouse/office building in City Road, not far from Liverpool Street Station. It is currently occupied by R S Components, which is set to move into a new 300,000 sq ft HQ on a 27 acre green field site in the Weldon Enterprise Zone near Corby. The agents, jointly with Henry Davis & Co, are asking £2.50 a sq ft for the building and no premium is payable for the current 25 year lease.

For next week this column will appear on Thursday instead of the usual Friday.

Business to Business

Advertisement for 'Business to Business' featuring various commercial opportunities. Includes sections for 'VERY IMPORTANT PRIME CITY CENTRE DEVELOPMENT SITE', 'CREATE NEW JOBS IN KING'S LYNN AND WEST NORFOLK', 'STEP INTO COLOUR', 'ADKIN', 'AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERS', 'ISLE OF MAN', 'PROMOTION PUBLICITY AND MARKETING', 'BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES', and 'A plea to a wealthy man'.

Handwritten text: 'copy 10/10/83'



A vertical advertisement for 'Gen' with a large graphic and text, likely a continuation of the 'Gen' brand advertisement.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
POSSUM EMPLOYED IN PUTNEY
An ingenious machine by which...

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS
WINDSURFERS AND SAILORS AHOY
Fascinating holidays in our own...

PERSONAL COLUMNS
HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS
ZAKINTHOS OR CORFU
Half price for children on selected...

PERSONAL COLUMNS
GREECE FOR £10 PER DAY!
CORFU June dates to Myra &...

PERSONAL COLUMNS
MAY/JUNE BARGAINS
Inclusive holiday rooms flight...

PERSONAL COLUMNS
VENTURA HOLIDAYS
775 South Road, London SW10...

PERSONAL COLUMNS
FOR SALE
WINDSURFING 2 tickets for the...

PERSONAL COLUMNS
RENTALS
KENSINGTON PLACE W8
Excellent 2 bed, 2 bath flat...

PERSONAL COLUMNS
RENTALS
CLARENDON ROAD, W11
Flat for rent on Clarendon Road...

BIRTHS
BARBER on May 11 to Saeed and...

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS
CORFU
Sunday morning departure...

PERSONAL COLUMNS
GREEK VILLA SALE!
Fly to Corfu on Monday 6 June...

PERSONAL COLUMNS
SUNFARE HOLIDAYS
260a Fulham Road, London, SW10...

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Business to Business also page 26
Wanted Patents ideas, new Products
Car Dismantlers for Sale
Leisure Industry
Times Newspapers Ltd Classified Dept, FREEPOST, London WC1 8BR

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Daville

Table listing television and radio programmes across various channels (BBC 1, TV-am, BBC 2, CHANNEL 4, Radio 4, Radio 2, Radio 3, Radio 1) including show titles, times, and brief descriptions.

CHOICE

Terrible and remorseless though it is, the violence inflicted on man and machine in JAMES BOND—THE FIRST 21 YEARS (TV, 8.00 pm) is as nothing compared with the violence done to our intelligence...

CHOICE

approach to the unemployment crisis in his series WE CAN DO IT (Radio 4, 4.10 pm). He is lucky in his choice of spokesman for the Institute of Manpower Studies...

Table listing regional television variations for BBC1, HTV, TYNE TEES, TVS, ULSTER, CHANNEL, S4C, YORKSHIRE, SCOTTISH, and HTV WALES.

ENTERTAINMENTS section containing numerous advertisements for theatres, operas, ballets, and concerts, including titles like 'The Pirates of Penzance', 'The Music Man', and 'The Boy in the Wood'. Includes contact information and showtimes.

Vertical text on the left margin: 'Business', 'Newspapers Ltd', 'POST', 'S GUIDE', 'N SERVICE'.

Vertical text on the right margin: 'The Times Classified 01-837 3311'.

30 dead as tidal waves devastate north-west Japan

From Our Correspondent, Tokyo

Tidal waves, some of them 10ft high, caused by a severe earthquake swept the north-west coast of Japan yesterday leaving at least 30 people dead and 69 missing, including several children who were picked up on a beach.

Government declared a state of emergency as rescue workers began assessing the damage. Coastguard officials said the waves had affected about 500 miles of the north-western coast of Honshu which was a scene of total destruction with fishing boats upturned, docks wrecked and cars floating in the sea after being sucked out by the receding water.

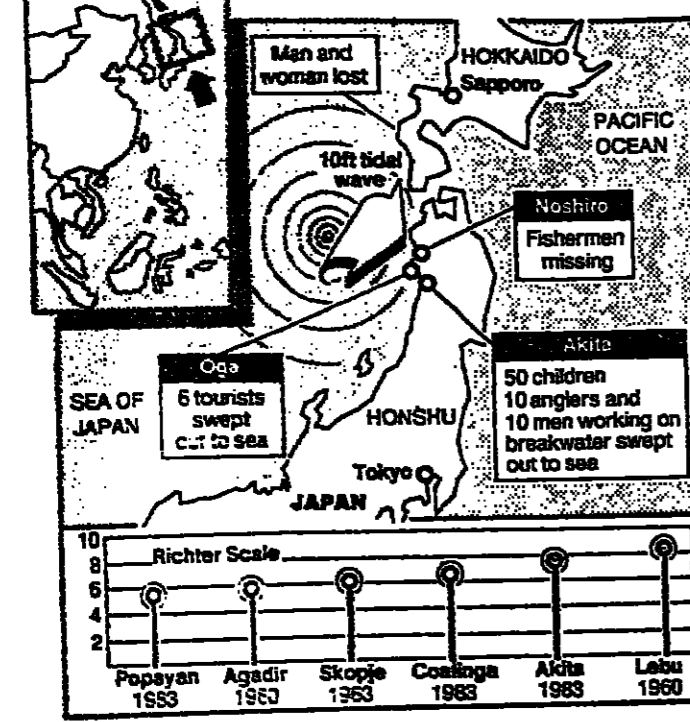
Violence and drama: Television cameras caught the full violence and drama of the quake. Film from a local Akita television crew showed streets which appeared to dance as the tremors struck and telephone poles shook, AFP reports.

Terrified people were thrown to the ground and the cameras caught a vessel as it capsized near the coast. A mother crouched protectively over her frightened child and a shopkeeper was seen chasing melons bounding away down the street.

Reports reaching Akita police said 10 workers repairing breakwaters at Akita port fell into the sea when the tremor hit.



Peril on the sea: Fishing boats swept on to a pier by yesterday's tidal waves.



Japan toll and pattern of major quakes.

People Express granted licence

Continued from page 1

no change in either the civil case by Laker liquidators against the British airlines, or the grand jury indictment which the British Government wants stopped.

Announcing the People Express permission yesterday, Lord Cockfield, Secretary of State for Trade, said "that encouraging progress" had been made in discussions with the US over the application of

American anti-trust laws to British airlines. British Airways, the only British airline competing directly with People Express into New York, said yesterday that it did not plan to match the \$99 fare, but would compete with any low fares introduced by its major New York rivals, PanAm and TWA to rival People Express's.

In the long term, People Express holds out a greater promise than Laker ever did of holding fares down, because it relies not only on filling its aircraft, but also on costs about half those of other airlines. It therefore represents a greater threat to the established lines.

In New York, People Express Airlines broke out in the champagne yesterday on learning that the British Government had permitted its flights to London (Reuter reports).

Leading article, page 13

Labour's split 'could cost election'

Continued from page 1

what Mr Callaghan said bluntly, that Polaris should not be abandoned without a response from the Russians.

But the left-wing Labour magazine Tribune yesterday attacked Mr Denis Healey, Mr Hattersley and Mr Shore for departing from the unequivocal manifesto commitment to get rid of all nuclear weapons within the lifetime of a Parliament.

They had seriously damaged Labour's campaign, Mr Healey complained, "and we wonder that the public were confused about the party's defence policy" when half the shadow cabinet appear not to understand it.

Two Labour candidates for Welsh seats were severely critical of Mr Callaghan. Mr Ray Davies, fighting Cardiff Central, said his speech was a stab in the back for Mr Foot and the party. Mr Ray Powell, defending the Ogmore seat, said he would no longer share a platform with Mr Callaghan at an election meeting.

Mr Healey said in Dover last night that he was confident that Polaris would have been phased out with some Soviet weapons which now threatened Britain by the time Labour won the next general election in five years time.

Asked about the manifesto pledge of a non-nuclear defence in the lifetime of the next Parliament, in relation to Polaris he said: "That is because we expect to succeed, but in any matter involving foreigners your success depends on what other people do."

He repeated his statement that if talks with the Soviet Union did not succeed the position would have to be reconsidered.

Two Labour front bench spokesmen yesterday maintained that the differences over Polaris were irrelevant. Mr Dennis Davies, a former defence spokesman, said the argument was a red herring. Polaris was "clapped out". Whether it had a life span of five or ten years was also irrelevant.

Mr Neil Kinnock said Polaris was obsolete. "The Labour Party has a non-nuclear defence policy and the Labour Government will implement that policy," Mr Kinnock said at Pontifranth, Gwent, but he did not define the policy more closely.

Frank Johnson's campaign trail Smear that wins Foot's approval

Mr Michael Foot, the reader may remember, was last depicted in this space while warning a meeting held at a roller skating rink in Peterborough, against those who "try to raise any scare and smear and slander against us."

He must still have been talking about smears before we caught up with him in Croydon yesterday morning. For, difficult though it may be for the reader to believe, Mr Foot, standing on the back of a lorry with a candidate named Mr Ian Smedley at his side, demanding: "I want to hear three cheers for Ian Smead's victory on June 9. Hip, hip... Difficult to believe, but understandable. For we could sympathise with Mr Foot's preoccupation with smears."

He is convinced, with reason, that he is a most smeared man. Throughout the campaign, this essentially English, nineteenth century radical has had to endure the suggestion in the press that he would surrender Britain's last line of defence against the Soviet Union without getting any concession in return. Mr James Callaghan - really must resist from such accusations.

Fortunately, the zealots of all parties who come out to hear the brief, impromptu speeches delivered by the leaders as they hurtle through a series of marginals do not much mind what species of words they hear. It is the general noise of the leader they have come for.

So Mr Ian Smedley, or Mr Ian Smead, got his three cheers for victory on June 9, as he would have got had Mr Foot been under the impression that he was Mr Ian Smead or Mr Ian Smead. A youthful, charming man, accompanied by his wife and two beautiful children, Mr Smead returned to his canvassing yesterday with renewed heart.

Mr Foot is not unusual among politicians in being in the grip of one overpowering concern, in his case "smears" when he is talking about something, or somebody, completely unconnected with it.

For example, soon after the first evidence emerged that President Nixon had indeed committed some sort of crime in Watergate, the President, while speaking in support of a Governor Evans, several times referred to "Governor Evidence". Perhaps an obsessive personality is what draws such figures as Mr Nixon and Mr Foot to politics in the first place.

And so the Foot campaign continued on its way. Faced with the problems variously posed him by Mr Callaghan, Mr Healey, and the opinion polls, how was he to respond? Yesterday he responded by trudging amiably on.

"What else could he do? Down a crowded street in Mitcham, in south London, he made his courtly progress. Contact with people, as opposed to that vaporous abstraction "the people" about which he has pamphleteered all his life, does not come naturally to Mr Foot in the way that it does to his tormenter, Mr Healey.

Pressed on by the cameras, he would reluctantly pin a stranded shopper against the window of Sainsbury's. Full-time to see you," he would tell her, and would pass on. At Mitcham, the procession of cameras bore him into a long line of queues. "Do something about the buses," snapped a shrill.

"Yesterday it took me three and a half hours to get to Blackshaw Road," she said, proving that not only politicians exaggerate horribly. There ensued the sort of dialogue to be found in the disturbing London of Pinter. "In the morning?" asked Mr Foot. "No, in the afternoon," said the shrill. "Aaaaah," said Mr Foot giving the impression that this explained everything. He passed on.

On the lorry with Mr Ian Smead, he recited off policies for health, pension, social services, education and much else. A woman shouted something inaudible from just in front of him. "Yes, well, animal rights too," he yelled at her. Another woman thrust into his arms a recently-born foal which she had found on the road in Croydon.

"Who would want to bludgeon a poor little thing like this?" he asked, apparently under the impression that bludgeoning was the method of killing employed by hounds.

Mr Foot comes across as kindly, idealistic and genuinely concerned about the well-being of all nations, not just his own. Is it any wonder that the British are terrified of the idea of him as prime minister.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother attends a ceremony in Windsor to mark the restoration of the Lutyns Memorial to King George V, 5.30. The Prince and Princess of Wales visit the Western District of the Duchy of Cornwall, arrive Restormel Manor Farm, 1. New exhibitions: Bath Festival exhibitions include: 20th century British paintings from

the Royal Academy, Victoria Gallery, Bridge Street, Bath; Mon to Fri 10 to 6, Sat 10 to 5; (from today until June 25). Three dimensional textiles by Tadek Beutlich and ceramic musical instruments by Neil Ions, St James's Gallery, 9 Margaret Buildings, Brock Street, Bath; Tues to Sat 9.30 to 5.30; (from today until June 11). Pictures from the Floating World, Japanese Woodcuts, Nettle and Lark and Tuttle's Lanterns, 9 George Street, Bath; Mon to Sat 9.30 to 6; (from today until June 10).

Food prices

Most meat prices are slightly up this week. Home-produced lamb is 4 or 5p a pound more. Sainsbury's have whole leg at £2.08, and Presto whole shoulder at £1.28. New Zealand lamb still represents good value, Canterbury and Sainsbury's have shoulder joints at £1.79. Pork has shoulder joints at £1.10 a pound for whole leg and 88p to £1.25 for bonnet shoulder, but Waitrose has the latter on special offer at 94p. Sainsbury's have reduced beef topside, silver-side and top rump to £1.88 a pound.

Roads

London and South-east: A46: Only one lane westbound on Western Avenue, Perivale. Tower Bridge raised at 7.30 am and 4.10 pm. Dartford Tunnel Roadworks on Kent side of river. Midlands and East Anglia: Milk Race cyclists travelling between Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, and Leicester, 10.30 to 14.45, via A1101 and A147, through Soham, A141 and A604 to Iddon, A43, A427, A6 and A50 to Leicester; traffic held up for 30 minutes while cyclists pass. M1: Lane closures at junction 19 (M6).

Weather forecast

A ridge of high pressure just W of Britain will persist. 6 am to midnight: London, SE, central S, SW, central N, NW, England, Midlands, Channel Islands, Wales, Isle of Man, Northern Ireland: Mainly dry with sunny periods; wind mainly N, light to moderate; max temp 16 to 18C (61 to 64F). East Anglia, E, NE, England: Cloudy with a few bright intervals and occasional showers; wind mainly NW, moderate to fresh; max temp 13 to 16C (55 to 61F). Lake District, SW, NW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll: Sunny periods with showers; wind mainly N, light to moderate; max temp 10 to 13C (50 to 55F). Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Perth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Mostly cloudy with bright intervals and occasional showers; wind N to NE, moderate to fresh; max temp 10 to 12C (48 to 54F).

The Times Crossword Puzzle No. 16,140

A crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1 through 29. The grid is partially filled with letters, and some cells are shaded black.

ACROSS: 1 Upbeats from changes in posture (9). 6 Carrier of Kipling's ugly lump (5). 9 Characters some have at their fingertips... (7). 10 ... or a Greek one that means nothing to us (7). 11 Marches (four) were little ones (5). 12 Half the prescribed outfit for landations (9). 13 Lids up, surprised (4-4). 15 Old hanger, a bargain, but no starter (8). 19 Chief shows strength (4). 20 6 ac with back trouble is in bed (8). 23 Long-lasting chess (9). 24 Head-dress in Major Barbara - it's coming back (5). 26 Flower said to give you arctic feeling (7). 27 A record - for lumberjacks might one think? (3-4). 28 Bull ring enclosure (5). 29 Waiting on the server (9). DOWN: 1 No crowding in chamber for Kato's joint admirers? (3-4). 2 ... Eros, the long day's task is done? (4 & C) (5). 3 Editor after a story isn't half gifted (8).

Law courts

Easter sittings at the royal courts of justice end today.

The pound

Table showing exchange rates for various currencies including Australia, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, USA, and Yugoslavia.

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Anniversaries

Births: St. Henry Packer, Australian statesman, 1815; Amelia Bloomer, campaigner for women's rights, 1815; Homer, New York, 1818; Arnold Bennett, English novelist, 1872; Isaac Newton, English physicist, 1643; Robert Koch, bacteriologist, Nobel laureate 1905, Baden, 1910. Deaths: John Calvin, 1564; Nicolaus Copernicus, 1543; Robert Koch, bacteriologist, Nobel laureate 1905, Baden, 1910. Habes Corpus Act passed, 1679.

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The pound

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The papers

"Amid the shambles of a political party and his own personal ruin, it is not difficult to feel sympathy for Mr. Thatcher. The man who has been our first obligation is to the security and prosperity of these islands, we should not weep for him."

Law courts

Easter sittings at the royal courts of justice end today.

The pound

Table showing exchange rates for various currencies including Australia, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, USA, and Yugoslavia.

Lighting-up time

Table showing sunrise and sunset times for various locations including London, Manchester, Birmingham, Liverpool, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Cardiff, Belfast, and Jersey.

Yesterday

Table showing weather conditions and temperatures for various locations including London, Manchester, Birmingham, Liverpool, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Cardiff, Belfast, and Jersey.

Highest and lowest

Table showing highest and lowest temperatures for various locations including London, Manchester, Birmingham, Liverpool, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Cardiff, Belfast, and Jersey.

High tides

Table showing high tide times for various locations including London Bridge, Aberdeen, Newcastle, Belfast, Cardiff, Dover, Southampton, Liverpool, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Cardiff, Belfast, and Jersey.

Around Britain

Table showing weather conditions and temperatures for various locations around Britain including London, Manchester, Birmingham, Liverpool, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Cardiff, Belfast, and Jersey.

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, possibly a page number or reference.